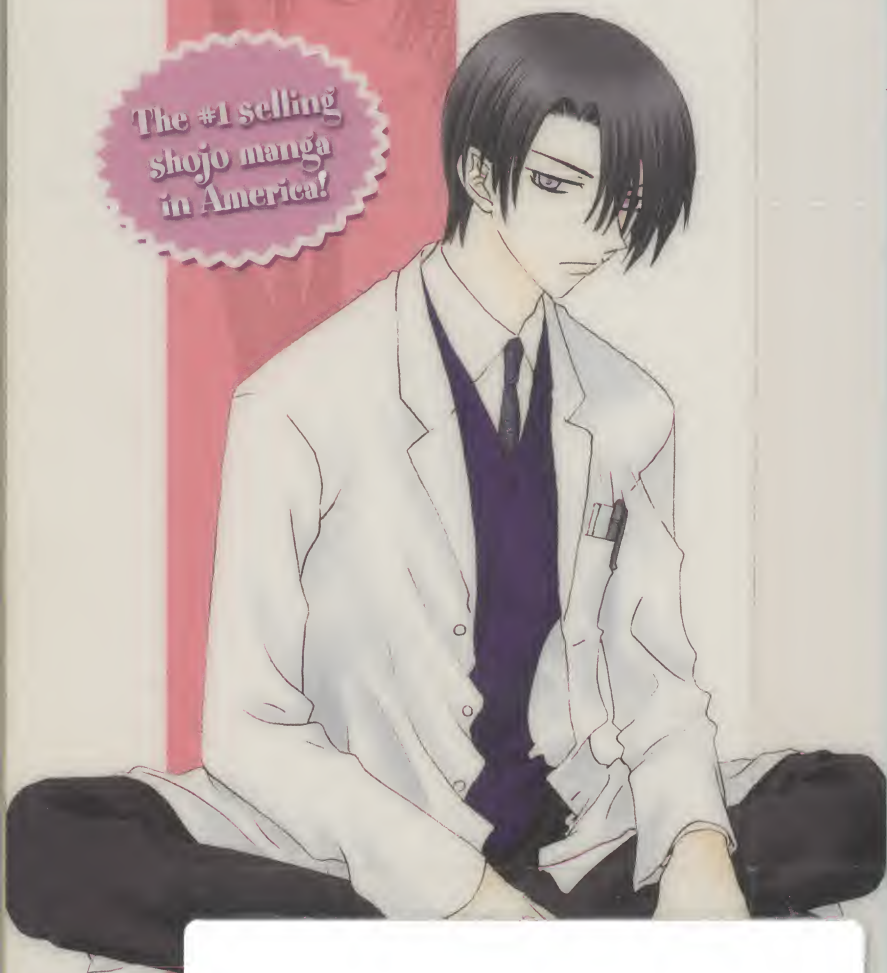


Fruits Basket™

The #1 selling
shojo manga
in America!



7

Natsuki Takaya

© 2001 TOKYOPOP

Fruits Basket™

Table of Contents

Chapter 37	8
Chapter 38	41
Chapter 39	71
Chapter 40	101
Chapter 41	131
Chapter 42	163
Fans Basket	194

STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!



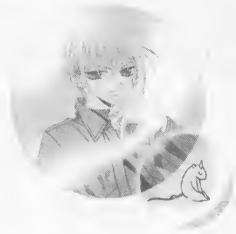


Tohru Honda

The ever-optimistic hero of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.

Yuki Sohma, the Rat

Soft-spoken. Self-esteem issues.
At school he's called "Prince Yuki."



Kyo Sohma, the Cat

The Cat who was left out of the Zodiac.
Hates Yuki, leeks and miso. But mostly Yuki.

Mabudachi Trio

Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little
perverted. A popular novelist.



Hatori Sohma, the Dragon

Family doctor to the Sohmas. Only thing he can't
cure is his broken heart.

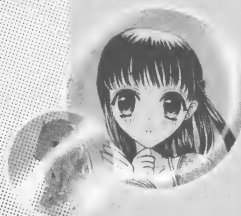


Ayame Sohma, the Snake

Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama
queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.



Fruits Basket Characters

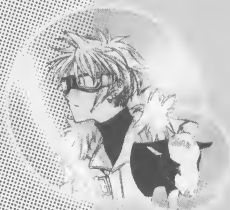


Kagura Sohma, the Boar

Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.

Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

Half-German. He's older than he looks. Mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse.

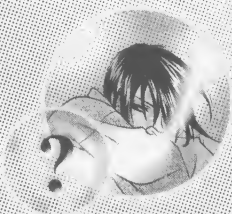


Hatsuharu Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out.

Akito Sohma

The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence.



Tohru's Best Friends

Saki Hanajima

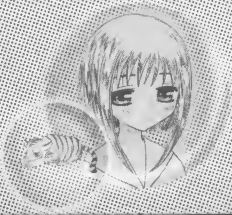
"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

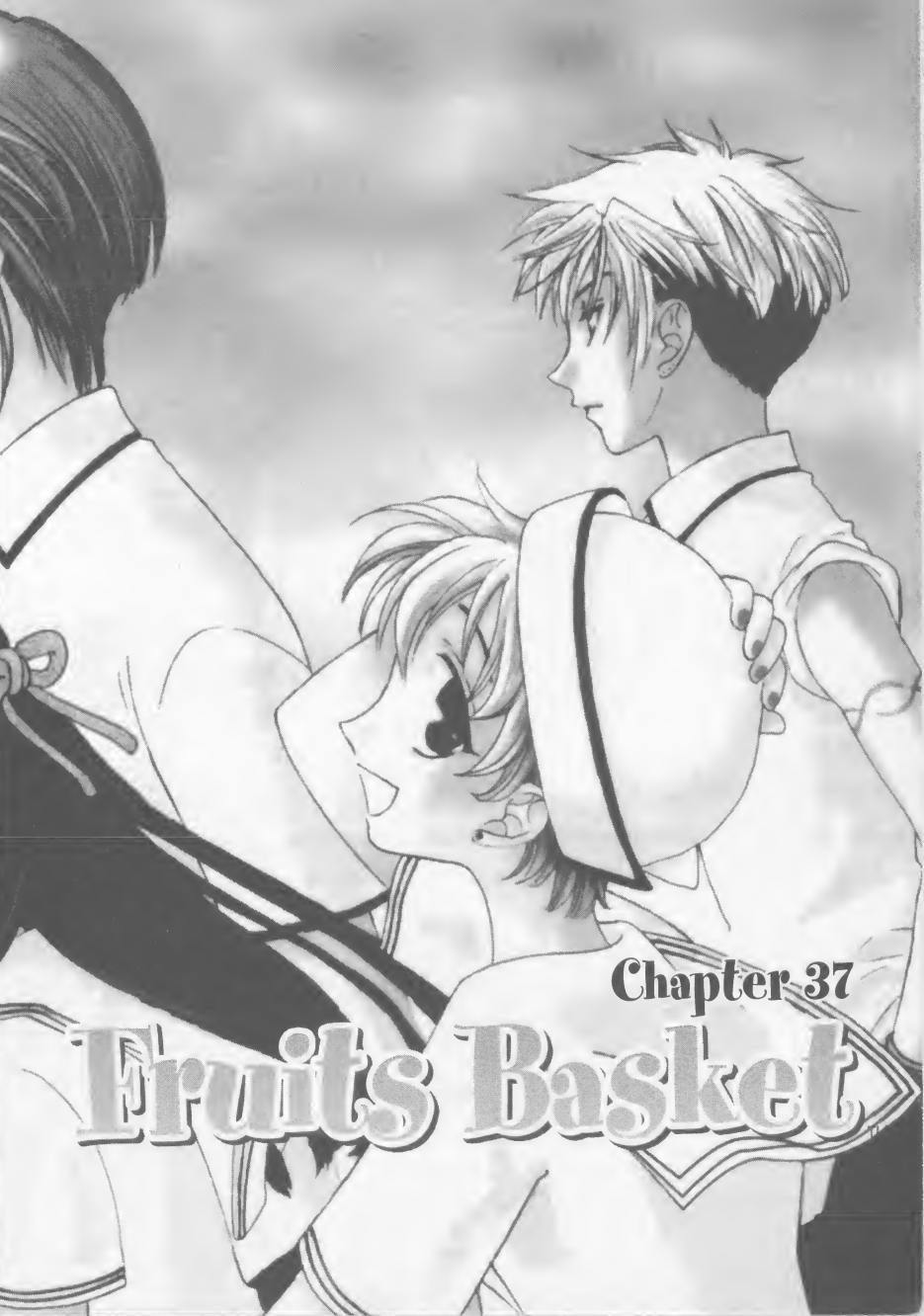
Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A tough-talking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends.

Kisa Sohma, the Tiger

Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.





Chapter 37

Fruits Basket



ULTRA-SPECIAL BONUS BLAH, BLAH, BLAH

Please don't think too much about Mogeta. Seriously. Just go with it. Takaya just drew it because she felt like it.

Today is the day, once
again. Yes it's true!
Ari's taking a walk
with Mogeta!

(Aritam's Donpanina Taios is long,
so it's always abbreviated)

Today is the day, and you
know he can't lose!
That mysterious creature,
Mogeta!*

Sometimes--well, rarely--when they
remember--they fight scaaaary enemies.

Today's enemy



*This is the Mogeta anime theme song...more or less...



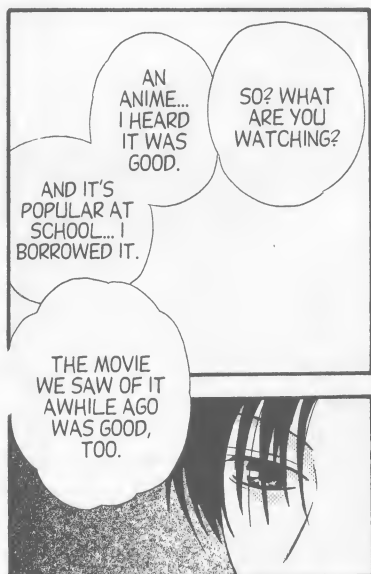
*oba-san: "aunt." Also used towards young women who are like family.

ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH, BLAH, BLAH, 1

I had hay fever before a few years back, but this time my nose won't stop running. It's a real problem. Where on earth does all that snot come from? Sigh...



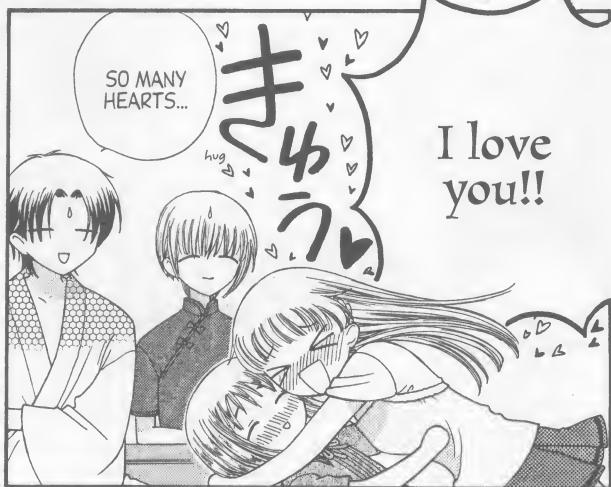




Fruits Basket 7:
Part 1

Hajimemashite and Konnichiwa. Natsuki Takaya reporting for duty. You've waited a long time, and here it is--volume 7! It's Hatori, this time. Goodness, it took a long time for me to recover fully; I apologize. I think there **may** have been people waiting for a Hatori cover... Were there? (I feel bad having to ask.) Anyway, Furuba has returned, so please enjoy it.

Editor's note: While Takaya-sensei was working on **Furuba** vol. 6, she sustained a serious injury to her drawing hand that caused the series to go on hiatus in Japan. (She mentions her hand in a vol. 6 sidebar). Fortunately, it was a speedy recovery and after a delay on Vol. 7, Takaya-sensei was able to return to the work she loves.

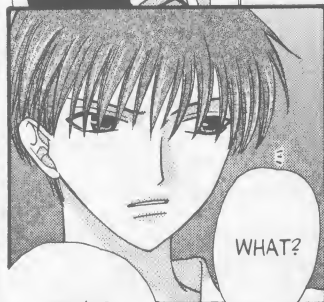




カ
ラ
カ
ラ
slide

OH.

OUR HOT-
HEADED
FRIEND HAS
RETURNED.



YOU'RE REALLY STAYING THE NIGHT, RUNT?









* In Japanese, many words and concepts are formed by combining other words. Shigure is commenting on the fact that the written form of "adolescence" is formed by combining the written words for "green" and "spring."



WELL THEN,
I'LL GO ON
AHEAD.

SEE YOU
TOMORROW.

OH HH
...

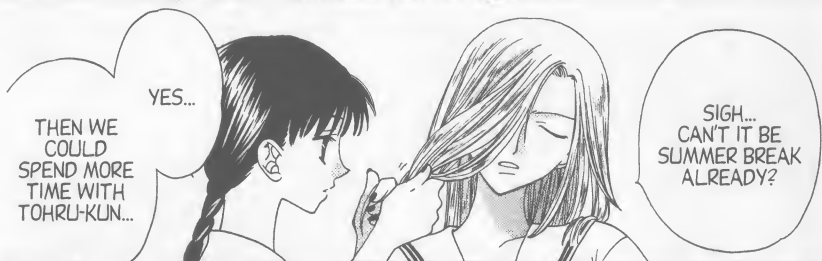


THANKS!

YUKI-KUN,
DO YOU
HAVE CLASS
OFFICER
DUTIES
TODAY?

YEAH.

GOOD LUCK
AT WORK,
HONDA-SAN.



YES...

THEN WE
COULD
SPEND MORE
TIME WITH
TOHRU-KUN...

SIGH...
CAN'T IT BE
SUMMER BREAK
ALREADY?



Like he's
one to
talk! →

CAN'T YOU
ASK MORE
POLITELY?!

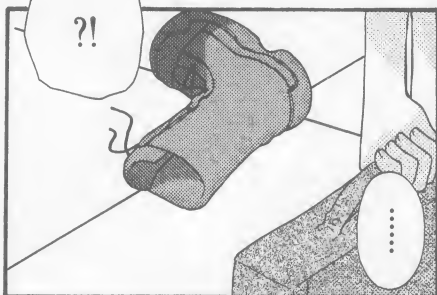
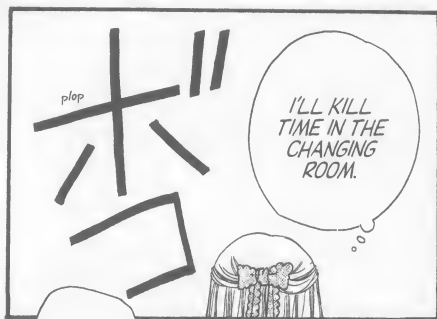
I'LL GO,
I'LL GO!
I LOVE
BOWLING.

I have
stuff to do
today!

All
right!
Come
on!

MOVE YOUR
ASSES, BOYS.
YOU COMING
BOWLING, OR
WHAT?

FOR NOW
I GUESS
WE'LL
JUST HAVE
TO SETTLE
FOR YOU
GUYS.







YOU'RE SO GULLIBLE.

WHAT? YOU'RE SERIOUSLY PICKING IT UP?

OR DON'T TELL ME YOU PLAN TO STEAL IT?!

LOOK! SINCE YOU'VE PICKED IT UP ALREADY, GIVE IT BACK.

EH?!

N-NO, I DON'T...

EH...?

DON'T YOU HAVE ANY STANDARDS?

SO IF I TOLD YOU TO SPIN AROUND, YOU'D DO IT? IF I TOLD YOU TO JUMP OFF A CLIFF, WOULD YOU DO THAT, TOO?

WHAT IS HE...?

HEY!

NO...

I CAN'T STAND PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO INDIVIDUALITY!!







Ah, here
we go...

THIS NOTE-
BOOK ISN'T SO
BAD. I LIKE
DEEP GREEN.

AH-!

UH,
UM-!

rummage
rummage

WHAT A
CHEAP BAG.
DIRTY, TOO.

GIVE IT
TO ME.

EH?!



Hmph!

HYAH!

ずん

BYE. THANKS
FOR AN
INCREDIBLY
BORING TIME.

I CAN'T.
THAT--

I'M HIRO
SOHMA.

FRANKLY,
I DOUBT I'LL
EVER SEE YOU
AGAIN, BUT I
GUESS YOU
SHOULD KNOW
MY NAME.

PLEASE WAIT!
THAT NOTE-
BOOK HAS A
PICTURE OF
MY MOTHER!

WAI-

たっ

I-I-I HAVE
TO GET
HER BACK!

**MOM'S BEEN
KIDNAPPED!!**

THIS
IS MORE
IMPORTANT
THAN
WORRYING
ABOUT MY
JOB!

panic

panic

panic

TH-THE MAIN
HOUSE... YES.
IF I GO TO THE
MAIN SOHMA
HOUSE...

...HIRO-SAN
SHOULD BE
THERE.

I'M
COMING,
MOM!

THERE'S A
PICTURE...

...OF MY
MOTHER...

whoooo

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
THERE?

T
O
H
R
U
?!

...BUT
THERE
WAS NO
TIME
TO BE
EXCITED.

I FINALLY
GOT TO MEET
ANOTHER
MEMBER OF
THE CHINESE
ZODIAC...

HIRO-
SAN...

...



...

MOMIJI-KUN...

YOU LOOK
LIKE YOU'VE
LOST YOUR
WAY.



Meanwhile, Hiro-kun was...



STUPID
WOMAN'S GOT
A MOTHER
COMPLEX OR
SOMETHING...

LAME.

A PICTURE
OF HER
MOTHER,
HUH?

That doesn't look
like a mom.



IT DOESN'T
MATTER;
NOBODY'S
HERE YET.

IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
WHETHER
THERE'S
ANYONE
HERE OR
NOT!

IT'S A
JUST BAD
MANNERS.

HIRO!

DAMMIT, HOW
MANY TIMES
DO I HAVE TO
TELL YOU?!

DON'T COME
INTO THE DOJO
WITH YOUR
SHOES ON!!

The dojo is "outside."



I'M IMPRESSED.

Ha!

SO YOU'RE
TELLING ME
YOU'D DO
WHATEVER
PEOPLE TOLD
YOU TO IF IT
WAS GOOD
MANNERS?

YOU MEAN YOU'D
DIE IF SOMEONE
TOLD YOU IT WAS
THE POLITE THING
TO DO? WOULD YOU
KILL SOMEONE TO
SHOW YOUR GOOD
MANNERS?



WHAT? YOU'RE
GETTING SO
WORKED UP
OVER A KID?
JEEZ....

YOU ACT SO
MATURE, BUT
YOU'RE NOT
OUT OF GRADE
SCHOOL YET,
DAMN PUNK!

you
SMART-
MOUTHED
BRAT!!





GIVE IT
BACK,
RIGHT
NOW!!

WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT? THAT
STUPID WOMAN
ASKED ME TO
TAKE IT.

"STUPID
WOMAN"...?!



UM...

ALL I DID
WAS TAKE HER
NOTEBOOK.

WHAT
IF YOU'RE
WRONGLY
ACCUISING
ME? HOW
WOULD YOU
APOLOGIZE?

WHAT?
YOU MEAN
YOU DON'T
TRUST ME?

**YOU DID
DO SOME-
THING!!**



**WHY,
YOU-!**

GO AHEAD, BIG
MAN. I'LL HAVE
YOU CHARGED
WITH CHILD
ABUSE.

YOU'D
BETTER DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT
THAT
ATTITUDE,
HIRO!

IF YOU DON'T
WANT ME TO
POUND THAT
STUPID GRIN INTO
A PULP, YOU'LL
GIVE IT BACK,
NOW!

KYO-
KU...!

HIRO-
CHAN!



UH, UM,
IT'S ALL
RIGHT
NOW...

NO, IT'S
NOT ALL
RIGHT!!

H-HIRO-
CHAN...!

HIROOO!!

I DON'T NEED
THIS ANYWAY.

Bad!

Das ist keine
Art!

...I DON'T
LIKE IT.

WHAT'S
WRONG?
WHY
WOULD
YOU...?

WHEN YOU...
DO SAD
THINGS LIKE
THAT...





HIRO'S
TALKING
CRAZY!

WHAT? DO
I HAVE TO
SPELL IT
OUT FOR
YOU?!

SHUT UP,
RABBIT!

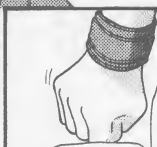
FIGURE
IT OUT!!



BUT I...

I WAS
REALLY...

...WORRIED
ABOUT YOU,
TOO, KISA!



I COULDN'T
BE ANY HELP
BACK THEN...

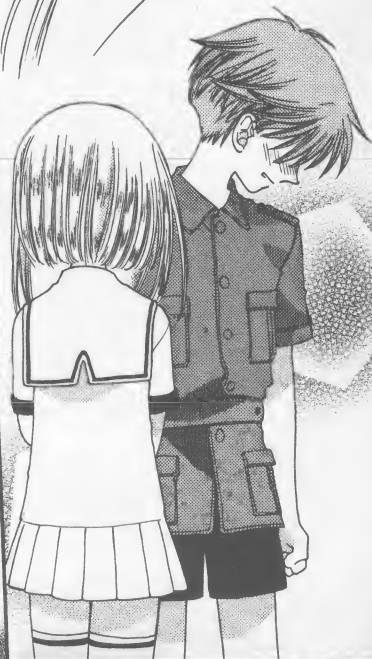
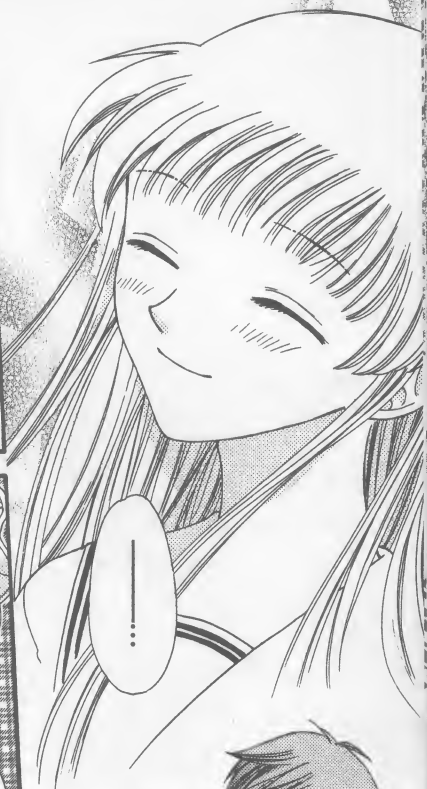
YOU WERE
HAVING SUCH
A HARD TIME,
KISA, BUT I
COULDN'T DO
ANYTHING.




BUT NOW...
NOW YOU'RE
ALWAYS
SAYING,
"ONEE-CHAN,
ONEE-CHAN!"



BUT I...






I WANT TO
BE THE ONLY
ONE...

HOW
SHAMEFUL.

...WHO CAN
HELP THE
ONE I CARE
ABOUT.



...
APOLOGIZE
TO ONEE-
CHAN?

BUT
HIRO-
CHAN...

WILL YOU
MAKE
SURE TO...

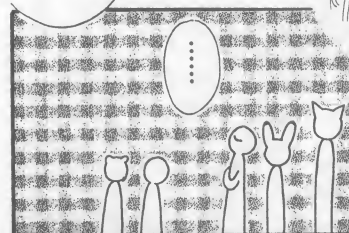
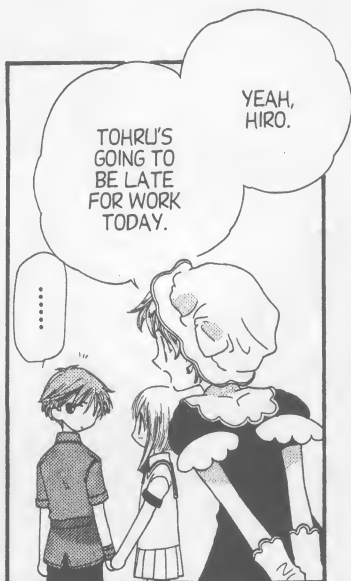


I'm happy,
but I don't
want to
interfere...

I SEE...
SO I WAS
HIS RIVAL
IN LOVE!

HUH
...?

TOHRU'S
IN AN
AWKWARD
POSITION!







AND WHILE
IT'S HARD
FOR HIM TO
EXPRESS HIS
FEELINGS
NOW, I KNOW
THAT...

The Ram

...HIRO-SAN IS
A BOY WITH
A ROMANTIC
HEART.



AND WHAT'S
THAT LINE
SUPPOSED
TO MEAN
ANYWAY?

YOU
MEAN YOU'VE
NEVER THOUGHT
THAT IT'S JUST
BECAUSE YOU'RE
INCOMPETENT?

SO WHAT'RE
YOU SAYING? YOU
MEAN IF YOUR
WIFE WASN'T
CONTROLLING
YOU, YOU
WOULDN'T BE
A VILLAIN?

I MAY BE IN
CHARGE NOW,
BUT EVEN
I WILL BE
RULED BY MY
WIFE WHEN I
GO HOME!!!

YOU COULD
AT LEAST
WATCH ANIME
WITHOUT
COMPLAINING,
HII-KUN.

Chapter 38





ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH, BLAH, BLAH 2

By the way, I like chocolate bananas. And parfaits--I love chocolate parfaits. When I was in the hospital, I wanted to eat them so much. (Also steak, hamburgers, gyouza...)



Hmph.

FROM THE
WAY HE
TALKS, YOU
WOULDN'T
THINK
HE'S ONLY
IN SIXTH
GRADE...

...IS THE
RAM
FROM THE
CHINESE
ZODIAC.

IT'S
NOT ALL
RIGHT!
BE
CAREFUL
IN THE
FUTURE.

YES!

I'll do
my best!

HIRO
SOHMA-
SAN...



AH...!

YOU THINK
YOU CAN JUST
INVITE YOUR-
SELF OVER
AND ACT LIKE
YOU OWN THE
PLACE?

WHY DO
YOU KEEP
COMING HERE
ON YOUR
DAYS OFF
ANYWAY?

HUH?
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

...BUT HE'S AN
ADORABLE
BOY WHO
SECRETLY
LOVES
KISA-SAN.

HEY, HIRO!
LAY OFF.

SHE'S NOT
YOUR MAID OR
ANYTHING.

LOOK
WHO'S
TALKING!!

IF ALL YOU HAVE
TO CONTRIBUTE IS
COMPLAINTS, EVEN
A SNOT-NOSED KID
CAN DO THAT.

STOP!
STOP, KYO-
CHAN!



HII-KUN
IS AT A
REBELLIOUS
AGE.

HAH?!

YOU MEAN TO
TELL ME THAT
YOU CONTRIBUTE
MORE TO THIS
HOUSE THAN
ANYONE ELSE?
DO YOU PAY ALL
THE BILLS?

SINCE WHEN
DID THE CAT
SET THE
RULES FOR
THIS HOUSE?

I CAN'T STAND
PEOPLE WHO DO
ABSOLUTELY
NOTHING BUT
COMPLAIN ALL
THE TIME!

KYO-CHAN,
KYO-CHAN...
HOW LITTLE
YOU UNDER-
STAND.

You're the
one who was
talking about
moderation!
Remember?
Let go of my
head!

I DON'T
GIVE A
DAMN WHAT
AGE THAT
PUNK IS!

IF HE'S
GOING TO HIT
ON PEOPLE,
HE CAN DO IT
AT HIS OWN
HOUSE!

Fruits Basket 7: Part 2

When I broke my left arm, I had to stay in the hospital for a while. I even had to undergo surgery, which, fortunately, was a success. And so I have returned! There may be some people who think that my handwriting's gotten sloppy since I've recovered, but my handwriting's *always* been sloppy, so please don't worry about it. And I'm sorry it's hard to read (laugh). Apparently the surgery I had came with a lot of risks, but surgery itself is like that, and I was pretty desperate, so I had no second thoughts. It was much harder for me to not be working.



WHETHER OUR HEARTS LEAD US "OUTSIDE" OR EVEN WITHIN THE SOHMA ESTATE, WE MUST BE PREPARED!

...FLIRTING WITH DISASTER AS WE ARE, IN OUR CONDITION. WE MUSTN'T MISS A CHANCE TO PRACTICE.

MEMBERS OF THE ZODIAC GET SO FEW OPPORTUNITIES TO FLIRT...



WHA?!

THE FACT THAT YOU'RE GETTING SO WORKED UP ABOUT IT IS PROOF THAT YOU ARE AT A REBELLIOUS AGE, TOO.

ANYWAY, JUST GO WITH THE FLOW.

Well...



"FINE ADULT" ...?

YOU HAVE TO BUILD CHARACTER AND BECOME A FINE ADULT LIKE MYSELF.

SEE? YOU GET MAD RIGHT AWAY.



OH MY.

A PERSON
WHO CAN'T
MAKE HIS
DEADLINES
IS A "FINE
ADULT"?

WHY, WHY, WHY
DON'T YOU KEEP
YOUR DEADLINES?

SHE WAS
STANDING AT
THE GATE
LIKE SHE
WAS ABOUT
TO HANG
HERSELF.

Hee
hee hee

WHY
INDEED...

EH?!



Sob sob sob...

And I'd
like some
tea.

LIKE
YOU'RE
ONE TO
TALK!

SHE'S SO
NOISY. AND
WHO DOES
SHE THINK
SHE IS COMING
IN HERE AND
MAKING
DEMANDS?

THERE, THERE.
I UNDERSTAND.
I'LL GET STARTED
WRITING NOW.

STUPID
SENSEI!

Waaah!



I DON'T
LIKE HER.

HIRO-
CHAN...

AND
YOU! STOP
LISTENING TO
EVERYTHING
HE SAYS!

I'LL GET
YOU MORE
RIGHT
AWAY.

HIRO-
CHAN,
DO
YOU...

...HATE
ONEE-
CHAN?

I DIDN'T
THINK IT
POSSIBLE,
BUT THIS
HOUSE GETS
NOISIER
EVERY DAY.

I WANT TO
TAKE YOU
SOMEWHERE
YOU'LL BE
HAPPY.

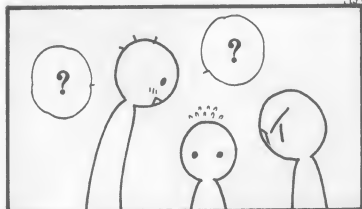
...YOU LIKE
HER...

...KISA.

TH--

THEN
WHY
DO YOU
TAKE ME
HERE?

BECAUSE
YOU...





...!

...I ALWAYS
THOUGHT
THAT
HIRO-CHAN
HATED ME...



I--

I'M...SORRY.
DEEP DOWN,
HIRO-CHAN...

...IS A
KIND
PERSON
...

Tee hee.

YOU TWO
REALLY
ARE CLOSE
FRIENDS,
AREN'T YOU?



I DIDN'T...
KNOW
WHY...

...BUT RECENTLY
HE STARTED
ACTING DISTANT...
AND EVEN WHEN
HE DID TALK TO
ME, HE WAS
SO COLD...

WHEN I WAS
STILL IN
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL,
HE WOULD
ALWAYS...PLAY
WITH ME...



I WAS SO
HAPPY...

"I WAS
REALLY
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU,
TOO, KISA!"

SO I WAS
REALLY
SURPRISED...

CHAOTIC
FEELINGS.

FEELINGS
THAT THEY
CAN'T BREAK
OFF.



SWIRLING
AROUND INSIDE
HIRO-SAN'S
SMALL BODY...

BUT
THERE
MIGHT
BE...

...ANOTHER
REASON,
TOO.

THE JULINISHI
HAVE TO
SUFFER SO
MUCH AS
MEMBERS OF
THE ZODIAC.

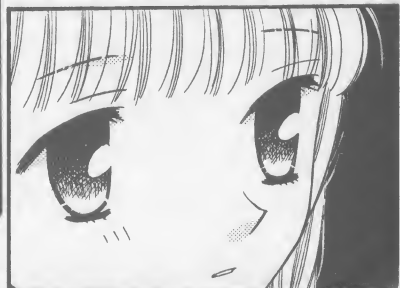


I SEE...

IS THAT
WHAT THEY
MEAN BY...

... "A BOY'S
SHYNESS"?

"WHETHER OUR
HEARTS LEAD US
'OUTSIDE' OR EVEN
WITHIN THE SOHMA
ESTATE, WE MUST
BE PREPARED!"



HE HADN'T
EVEN IMAGINED
WHAT WOULD
HAPPEN WHEN
HE TOLD AKITO
ABOUT IT.

POOR
HIRO...

HE MAY
HAVE
BEEN TOO
AFRAID
NOT TO.

I
LOVE
KISA.

IN THE
END,
AKITO...

...GAVE KISA
WOUNDS THAT
TOOK TWO
WEEKS TO
FULLY HEAL.

...THERE MAY
BE SOMETHING
PAINFUL.

AND IT WAS DURING THAT TIME THAT KISA STARTED GETTING TEASED AGAIN.

APPARENTLY, AFTER THE INCIDENT, HIRO DID ALL HE COULD TO AVOID KISA.

WELL, OF COURSE SHE WOULD BE! HER SHINING KNIGHT WAS NOWHERE TO BE SEEN.

AKITO GAVE HER THE OL' BLACK AND BLUE TREATMENT, HUH?

AND WHO COULD BLAME THE POOR BOY? IF I WERE IN HIS SHOES, I WOULD HAVE DONE JUST THE SAME.

WHEN THE PERSON YOU LOVE GETS HURT BECAUSE OF YOU, YOU FEEL LIKE THE MOST PATHETIC, WORTHLESS PERSON ON EARTH. IT'S NO WONDER HIRO DIDN'T WANT TO FACE HER.

...BECAUSE HE CAN'T BLAME AKITO.

...AND DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

YES. HIRO IS ANGRY AT HIS OWN ACTIONS...



THAT YOU
DIDN'T KNOW
ABOUT THIS.

ABOUT
WHAT?

I THOUGHT
AKITO TOLD
YOU ABOUT
EVERYTHING.

Ha
ha!
IN THE
END, EVEN
I CAN'T BE
TRUSTED,
EITHER.

I'M
SURPRISED.

SO NOW
HE'S TAKING
IT OUT ON
TOHRU-KUN!

THE
IRRATIONALITY
OF YOUTH!

*Now it all
makes sense.*

YOU'RE SO
CHILDISH.

YUP.

A REAL
BRAT,
THROUGH
AND
THROUGH.

*You'd be
surprised.*

...AKITO
WILL BE
THE ONE TO
PAY FOR IT
IN THE END.

WHATEVER
WE CHOOSE
TO DO,
MISTAKES
WE MAKE...



I'M
WORRIED
ABOUT
WHETHER
SHE'LL HAVE
TO FACE IT.

AKITO'S
ANGER...

RIGHT...
NOT
HARDLY.

AND SO
YOU'RE EVER
THE ADULT,
HAA-SAN.

Because
I'm the
king!

SUCH
TRIVIAL
LABELS.

So...
AAYA
IS?

Ha ha!

ha



SO THEN
HAA-KUN
CAN REST A
LITTLE MORE
EASILY?

YEAH.

BUT SHE'LL
BE OUT OF
THE HOSPITAL
SOON, RIGHT?

YEAH. IT
WOULD BE
TERRIBLE IF
SHE WENT
THROUGH THE
SAME THING
AS RIN.



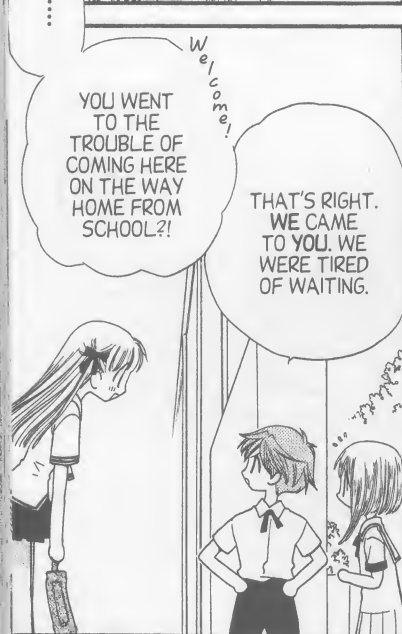
...REALLY
SUCK AT
THIS.

WE
ALL...

YOU
KNOW...



TAKE US
SOMEWHERE
FUN.



YOU WENT
TO THE
TROUBLE OF
COMING HERE
ON THE WAY
HOME FROM
SCHOOL?!

Welcome!

THAT'S RIGHT.
WE CAME
TO YOU. WE
WERE TIRED
OF WAITING.



WHERE
ON
EARTH
...?

EH?!

AH, WELL,
UM, BUT--!

DON'T MAKE
US ANY MORE
TIRED. HURRY
AND TAKE US
SOMEWHERE.



THIS
BUSINESS OF
FALLING IN
LOVE WITH
SOMEONE...

...AND
TAKING
CARE OF
THEM.

HEY, YOU!

YOU'RE NOT
WORKING
TODAY,
RIGHT?

Ha!

IT MUST BE
QUITE THE EASY
LIFE WHEN YOU
DON'T HAVE
AN ORIGINAL
THOUGHT IN
YOUR HEAD!

YOU MEAN YOU
THINK IT'S OKAY
TO JUST QUIETLY
FOLLOW THE
PATH OTHERS
HAVE DRAWN
FOR YOU?

WHAT? YOU
MEAN YOU
CAN'T DECIDE
ON YOUR OWN?

YOU
MEAN YOU
DON'T HAVE
ANY IDEA OF
WHAT YOU
LIKE OR
DISLIKE?

I'm
sorry



THEY'RE
RIGHT.

I REALLY
AM...

...CONCEITED.

WHO IS
THAT
BOY?

HE'S SO
CONCEITED...

*I hate kids
like that.*

THINKS HE'S
SMARTER THAN
EVERYONE
ELSE...

*That girl should
tell him off.*

YOU LOOKING
AT ME, PUNK?
I'LL BREAK
YOUR NOSE.

Or something.

?!



I'M SORRY
FOR BEING SO
CONCEITED.

I REALLY SHOULD
LEARN MORE
OF THE JOYS
AND SORROWS,
BITTERNESS AND
SWEETNESS, OF
THE WORLD.

IF I WERE TO
SAY THAT...

...WOULD
YOU BE
HAPPY?

I'LL BE
GOOD NOW,
I PROMISE!
PLEASE
DON'T GET
MAD.

HUH?!

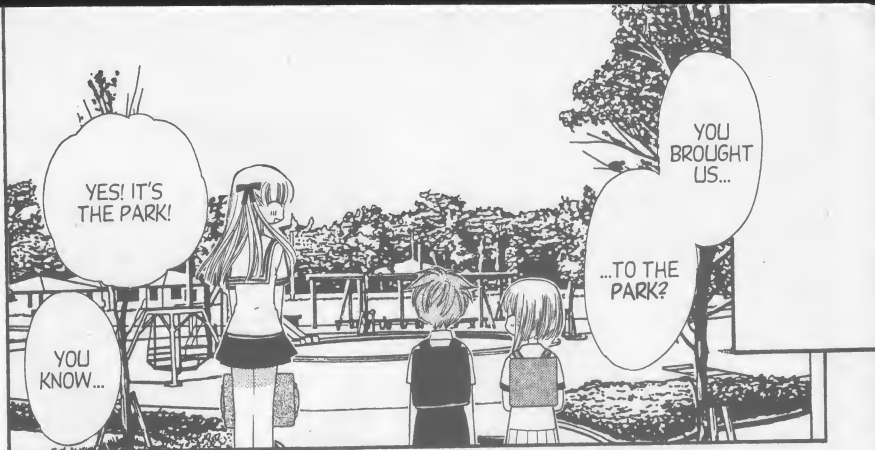
AH...



I WANNA
PLUNCH
HIM.

BYE-BYE!





Sign: Desserts to Die For
Crepe Crepe



UM...
STRAW-
BERRY...

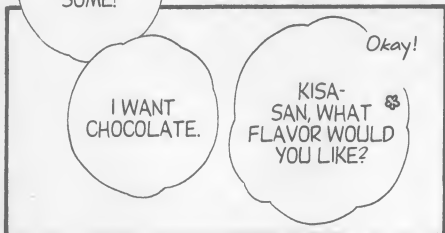
OR...
MAYBE...

YOU CAN'T
DECIDE?



WOULD
YOU LIKE
ONE, KISA?

THEN
I'LL GO
BUY
SOME!



Okay!

I WANT
CHOCOLATE.

KISA-
SAN, WHAT
FLAVOR WOULD
YOU LIKE?



Why don't
we get
both, and
share?

Okay!

WAIT
HERE! I'LL
BE RIGHT
BACK!





What
?!

YOU THINK
YOU'RE THAT
GREAT?

HUH?!

YOU THINK
YOU CAN MAKE
ANY WORRIES
ANYONE HAS
GO AWAY?



I DON'T
GET IT...

WHY
COULDN'T
I DO...

...WHAT
SOMEONE
AS DITZY
AS YOU
COULD?



...
OKAY.

WHEN
YOU ACT SO
HUMBLE ALL
THE TIME, YOU
JUST COME OFF
AS PATHETIC,
SO GIVE IT
A REST.

I'M NOT... I'M
NOWHERE
NEAR THAT...

UM...

YOU THINK
YOU CAN
SAVE
PEOPLE?

YOU THINK
YOU CAN
ERASE ANY
PAIN OR
SADNESS?

EH...?



BUT...

*BUT...
AKITO-SAN
WAS
REALLY
MAD...*

*I DON'T
REALLY
KNOW
WHY...*



WAS IT...

*...SOME-
THING I
DID?*



*I LOVE
HER.*

*I WANTED TO
BE FREE TO
ACT ON MY
FEELINGS...*

I WONDER...

*...IF IT HAD
BEEN HER IN
MY POSITION...*

*...AND WANTED
THAT PERSON TO
UNDERSTAND.*



*...WOULD SHE
HAVE DONE
BETTER AT
PROTECTING
KISA?*



AND I STILL
THINK I LOVE
KISA. IT'S
NOT FAIR
OF ME.

I KNEW SHE WAS
BEING TEASED,
BUT I DIDN'T DO
ANYTHING.

I DISTANCED
MYSELF, LIKE
I WAS RUNNING
AWAY.

IT
WASN'T
FAIR!

WHY...?

WHY
AM I...

...SO
CHILDISH?

I...

I GOT KISA
HURT SO
BADLY...

...BUT I
COULDN'T
TELL HER
ANYTHING.

AND I
COULDN'T
BRING IT UP
AGAIN WITH
THAT PERSON,
EITHER.

I HATE
MYSELF
SO MUCH I
COULD DIE.

NOT LIKE
THIS...

I DON'T
WANT TO
BE LIKE
THIS... I
WANT...



I'M EVEN
JEALOUS OF
THIS RANDOM
GIRL WHO
SHOWED
UP OUT OF
NOWHERE!

I'M PATHETIC.

...TO BE A MUCH,
MUCH BETTER
GROWNUP.



I KNOW.

IT'S TRUE.
TALK IS
ALL I'M
GOOD AT.

I'M A
CLUMP
OF
VANITY.

I CAN'T DO
ANYTHING!

I'M JUST
A KID...!



I'M JUST
A KID.



I REALLY
CAN'T THINK
OF YOU
AS BEING
IN SIXTH
GRADE.

Hey!

I'M NOT
ASKING FOR
YOUR HELP!

OR ARE YOU
TRYING TO
FLATTER
ME?

NO,
THAT'S
NOT IT!



HIRO-SAN,
YOU'RE AMAZING!



MY MOM
SAID
THAT...

...THERE ARE
A LOT OF
PEOPLE WHO
ARE AFRAID
TO ADMIT...

...THAT
THEY'RE STILL
CHILDREN.

THEY DO
EVERY-
THING
THEY CAN
TO AVOID
IT... SO...



...YOU
CAN DO
THINGS.

HIRO-SAN
...

...PEOPLE WHO
CAN ADMIT
THAT...

SO...



YOU
CAN BE THE
WONDERFUL
PRINCE WHO
PROTECTS
KISA-SAN.

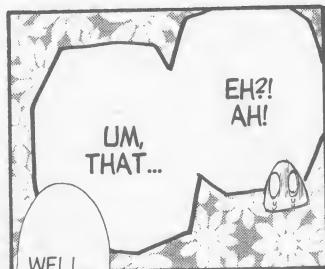
BECAUSE
INSIDE YOU,
HIRO-SAN...

...HAVE
COURAGE.

...YOU DO...



...HAVE
A LOT OF
COURAGE,
SHE SAYS.



UM,
THAT...

EH?!
AH!

WELL...



YOU
WOULD BE
RIGHT.



...THAT
RIGHT NOW
I'M NOTHING
LIKE A
PRINCE?

IS THAT
WHAT
YOU'RE
SAYING?



THE COURAGE
TO DO MY BEST...

SO
YOU'RE
SAYING...



...SO TODAY,
I'LL MAKE AN
EXCEPTION
AND TREAT
YOU.



I'VE
GOT IT.

YOUR
LITTLE
SERMON WAS
WORTH THE
PRICE OF A
CREPE...



YOUR
CREPES
ARE READY.
SORRY FOR
THE WAIT.



Ah!

YES. LET
ME--

IF...

...I CAN'T
BECOME
ONE.

"You
do..."

...have
courage."

HOW CAN SHE
TALK LIKE
THAT WHEN
SHE DOESN'T
EVEN KNOW
ME?

WHAT DOES
SHE MEAN,
"PRINCE"?

WILL
SHE TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY
IF I CAN'T
LIVE UP TO
THAT?

SHE'S SO
EMBARRASSING.

WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?

HIRO-
CHAN?

...



WATCH.

ARE YOU
HAPPY ABOUT
SOMETHING?

I'LL
BECOME
ONE.

I WON'T FAIL.

BUT EVEN
WHEN I DIE,
I'LL NEVER
THANK HER.

Hiro-san,
your
change.

?



SO... NEXT
SUNDAY,
THAT IS...
WILL YOU...

I HAVE TO
MAKE THE
INVITATION
SOMETIMES...

I SHOULDN'T
ALWAYS
TAG ALONG...

...WITH
HIRO-
CHAN.



Yes! I'd
love to!

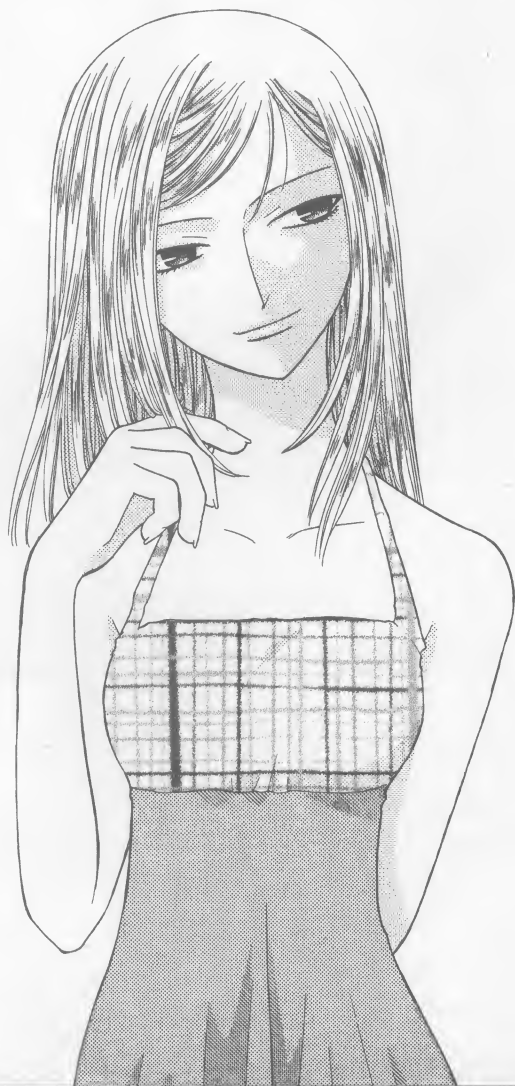
...COME PLAY
WITH HIRO-
CHAN AND ME?

A RIVAL...
THAT WOMAN'S
MY RIVAL!

PLEASE
...?

IT'S UP
TO ME.

Chapter 39





ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH, BLAH, BLAH. 3

There are a lot of Sohma men who hate summer, starting with the Mabudachi Trio. They prefer kotatsu (heated blankets) and oranges.

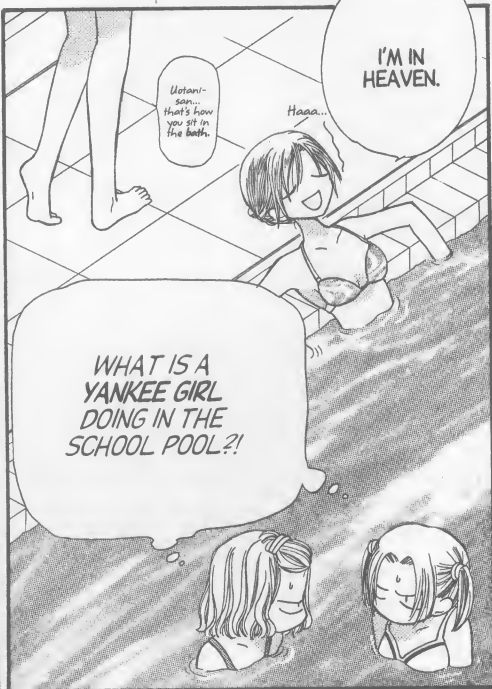


I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THERE'RE STILL PEOPLE WHO HANG ON TO THAT DUMB FAD. AND A GIRL IN OUR CLASS, NO LESS!



IT'S JUST WEIRD.

RIGHT--?



I'M IN HEAVEN.

Haaa...

Uotan-san... that's how you sit in the bath.

WHAT IS A YANKEE GIRL DOING IN THE SCHOOL POOL?!





AN EXTRA
HAIR TIE!

OH... YOU
FOUND THAT
FOR ME?

I'M SO
HAPPY,
TOHRU-
KUN...

OH,
NO--

I FOUND
ONE!

School
Swimsuit

WAAHH!

WHAT'S
WRONG,
UO-
CHAN!?!

UO-
CHAN?!

In middle school it was a requirement, but now she can wear what she wants!

I KNOW, BUT...

TOHRU-KUN IN A SCHOOL SWIMSUIT.

ARISA, YOU HAVE TO GET USED TO IT...

YOU'LL SEE IT EVERY YEAR.

IS SHE NOT LOVELY...?

IT'S NOT THAT I THINK IT'S UGLY OR EMBARRASSING--

IT'S JUST...

...YOU KNOW...



NOOOO!
STOP!

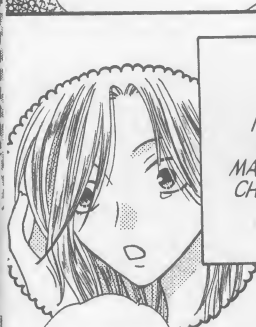
IT'S LIKE THE SAME FEELING I GET WHEN I SEE AN OLD MAN STILL BUYING HIS LUNCH AT A CONVENIENCE STORE!!

THAT OLD MAN MIGHT NOT THINK ANYTHING OF IT, BUT WATCHING HIM, I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL AWKWARD AND MISERABLE ON HIS BEHALF!

AND BEFORE I KNOW IT, FOR NO REASON, I START TO CRY! CRY!

THAT'S RIGHT! THE ONE WHO RINGS HIM UP, CRYING, IS ME!

She works part-time at a convenience store.



I CAN'T KEEP MAKING LIU-CHAN SAD.

OH YEAH!

I HAVE A GREAT IDEA!

?



ARISA REALLY DOES CRY EASILY...

WHOOAAA!
U-Uo-
chan...



SWIMMING SUITS ARE EXPENSIVE.

I GUESS I REALLY SHOULD BUY ONE THIS YEAR.

I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A WASTE TO BUY A NEW ONE WHEN I CAN STILL WEAR THIS.



Fruits Basket 7: Part 3

When I first arrived at the hospital, I was pretty nervous, but before I knew it, I was sleeping like a baby. All night long! I would fall asleep before nine and wake up at five, and I ate three meals a day... I hadn't lived like that since middle school. Even though I was in the hospital I found myself thinking, "This is a healthy life!" (laugh). Normally I don't watch much TV, but as I had so much time on my hands I ended up watching dramas and stuff and for some reason I got hooked on baseball--it was crazy. For me. But as I had to go to sleep before nine there were a lot of times when I never found out who won... (Unless it went 'til morning, I wouldn't know the score...)





IM BEGGING
YOU, PLEASE
DON'T LET THIS
TERRIBLE
CRIME
CONTINUE!!

OKAY?

TOHRU-
KUN!!

EH?!

Ah

Mm-
hmm

grab

WE
MUST
BUY
ONE.

WE MUST
BUY YOU A
PROPER ONE
RIGHT NOW.

HE HAS A
WEAK SPOT
FOR TOHRU-
KUN, TOO...



THERE'S
JUST SO
MANY TO
CHOOSE
FROM...

2

HMM...

SHOULD WE
GO WITH A
ONE PIECE?

YOU'RE NOT
MAKING THIS
EASY, TOHRU.



yo!

BOYS, YOU
WANNA SEE HER
IN A BIKINI OR A
ONE PIECE?!

DON'T ASK ME!!!



**YOU
DRAGGED
US HERE BY
FORCE!**

THEN YOU
SHOULDN'T'VE
COME WITH
US.

EXACTLY.
SO WHAT'S
WITH THE
ATTITUDE?



IF YOU HAVE
NOTHING TO
FEEL GUILTY
ABOUT, THEN
CUT LOOSE
AND HAVE
SOME FUN.



HEY, I'M
TALKING
TO YOU!

GET OVER
HERE AND
HELP OUT!

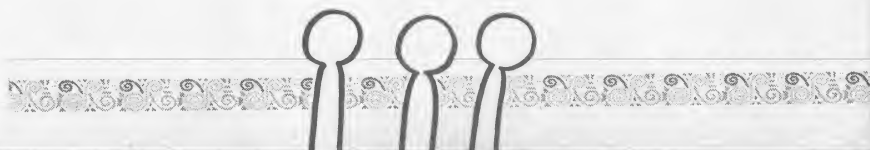
LOOK, YOU...
YOU DON'T
BRING GUYS
TO PLACES
LIKE THIS!



HAVE SOME SHAME, WOMAN!!

I'm begging you!

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE ASKING YOU WHAT KIND OF PANTIES YOU LIKE.



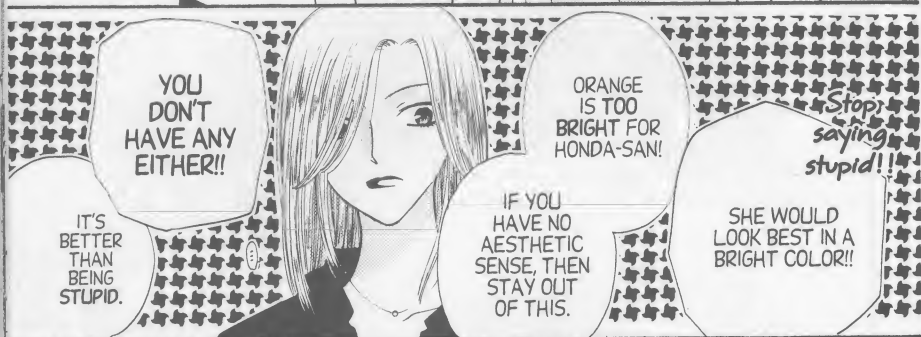


YOU DON'T
THINK YOU'RE
PICKING THAT
STUPID COLOR
BECAUSE IT
REMINDS YOU
OF A CERTAIN
STUPID
PERSON?

"BLUE"?

WELL
YOU'VE GOT
SOME NERVE
SAYING
ORANGE...

WHAT THE
HELL?! HOW
CAN YOU LOOK
AT HER AND
THINK OF SUCH
A DREARY
COLOR?



YOU
DON'T
HAVE ANY
EITHER!!

IT'S
BETTER
THAN
BEING
STUPID.

ORANGE
IS TOO
BRIGHT FOR
HONDA-SAN!

Stop
saying
stupid!!

IF YOU
HAVE NO
AESTHETIC
SENSE, THEN
STAY OUT
OF THIS.

SHE WOULD
LOOK BEST IN A
BRIGHT COLOR!!



There's just
no way I'll let her
wear HIS color!!

I SAID SHE
LOOKS GOOD
IN ORANGE,
SO ORANGE!!

PINK
...

THOSE
TWO ARE SO
PREDICTABLE.

Are they
in denial or
just dense?

BLUE!

NO,
DEFINITELY
PINK.

WHAT
OTHER COLOR
COULD LOOK
AS GOOD
ON HER?

THINK AGAIN
AND I'M SURE
YOU'LL REACH
THE SAME
CONCLUSION...

?

White would
be good too.

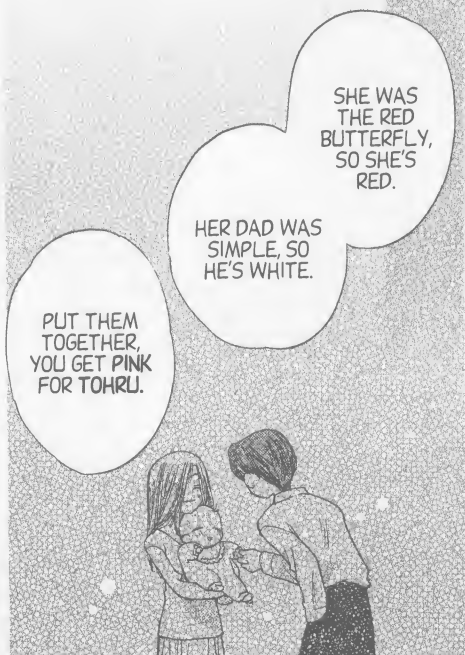
YOU'RE RIGHT.
PINK IS GOOD
FOR TOHRU.

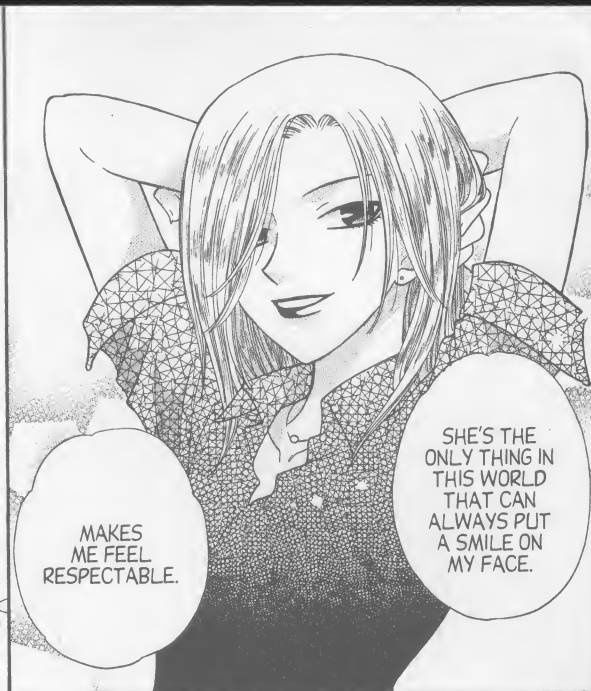
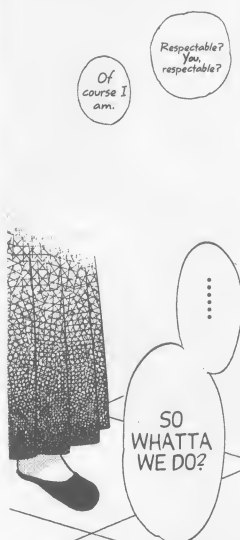
IF YOU'VE
ALREADY
DECIDED,
DON'T ASK!!

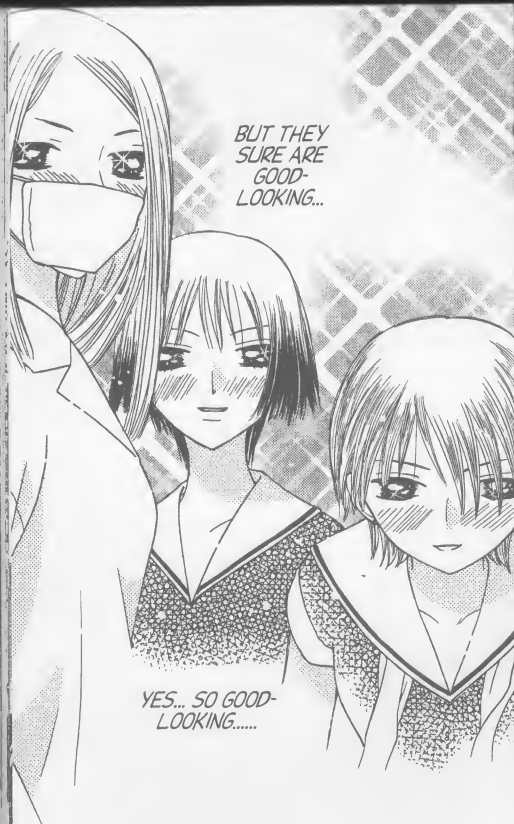
FOR
TOHRU-
KUN...

...P-I-N-K...

...IS
BEST...







BUT THEY
SURE ARE
GOOD-
LOOKING...

YES... SO GOOD-
LOOKING.....



PUNKS LIKE
THEM, THEY'D
PROBABLY RUN
AWAY AND
CRY TO THEIR
MOMMIES
SOON AS THEY
SAW US!

AIN'T
THAT THE
TRUTH.

.....



IT'S
BUT A SMALL
TOKEN OF OUR
GRATITUDE.

UM, BUT--!

Ah!

...A
PRESENT?!

EH...?

YOU GUYS
GOT ME...



TH--

THANK
YOU SO
MUCH.

I'LL... I'LL
TAKE GOOD
CARE OF IT!



OH, NO,
UM, I,
THAT
IS--!

IT'S OKAY;
JUST TAKE IT.

YES... WE
WANT YOU
TO HAVE IT
...

TAKE
IT...

...HONDA-
SAN.



TOHRU!

TOHRU-
KUN...

FEELING
LEFT-OUT

WHAT DID YOU END UP BUYING?

I GUESS YOU BOYS'RE JUST GONNA HAVE TO WAIT AND FIND OUT. YOU WERE PLANNING ON GOING TO THE BEACH SOON ANYWAY, RIGHT?

YEAH... I WOULD LIKE TO GO.

そば魂
10 1997

Sign: Soba Tamashii (soulful noodles)

I CAUSED A BIT OF A PROBLEM IN MY PREVIOUS MIDDLE SCHOOL...

I look forward to it...

YES!

WE SHOULD GO SOMEWHERE, JUST THE THREE OF US.

YOU REALLY DO GET ALONG WELL... DO YOU KNOW EACH OTHER FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL?

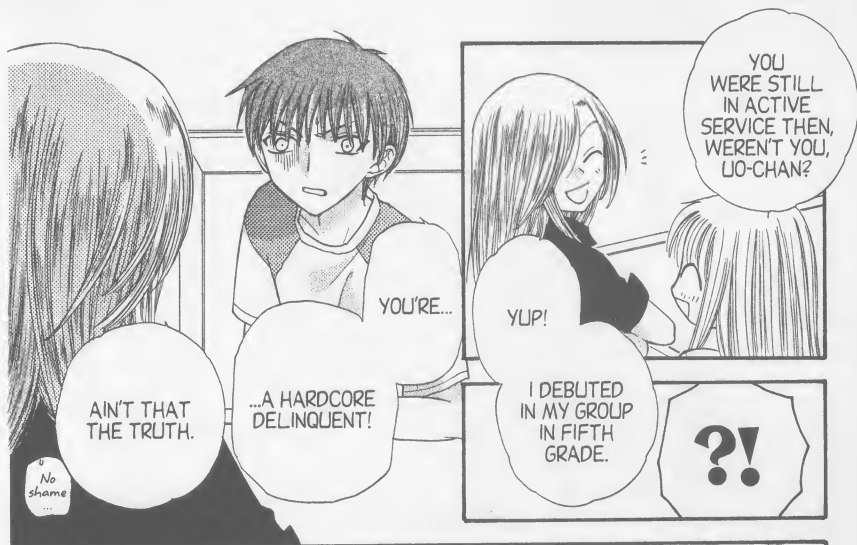
NNGH...

REALLY...

YES...

NO, WE MET IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

HANAJIMA TRANSFERRED IN DURING OUR SECOND YEAR.





I'D START
FIGHTS...

...START
FIRES, GET
CHASED
BY THE
POLICE...

IF I TOLD
YOU ALL THE
STUFF I DID,
YOUR EARS
WOULD ROT.

ANYWAY,
I WAS A
HOPELESS
IDIOT.

...THERE
WAS STILL
SOMEONE
I REALLY
LOOKED
UP TO.

BUT AS
COCKY AS
I WAS...


THAT WAS
KYOKO-SAN.

WHY IS IT
SO EASY TO
TURN BAD?

BEFORE I
KNEW IT, I
HAD JOINED
THE LADIES.

I WAS
SURROUNDED
BY THE
WRONG KIND
OF PEOPLE...

...AND WAS
ALWAYS
GETTING
INTO
TROUBLE.



SHE WAS A
TOUGH FIGHTER
AND DESPITE HER
REPUTATION, SHE
HAD PRINCIPLES-
HATED PHONIES.

SHE BEAT UP
MEN TWICE
HER SIZE AND,
DESPITE BEING
A WOMAN,
BECAME THE
LEADER OF A
SLICIDE SQUAD.
THEY CALLED
HER THE "RED
BUTTERFLY."

THEY SAY WHEN
SHE RODE HER
BIKE, THE RED
TAILLIGHTS
LOOKED LIKE
A DANCING
BUTTERFLY.

THE MORE I
HEARD ABOUT
HER FROM THE
OLDER GIRLS,
THE MORE
I LOOKED UP
TO HER.

FOR ME,
THAT
WAS
KYOKO-
SAN.

YOU START
OBSESSING ABOUT
HOW GREAT
SOMEONE IS
AND BEFORE YOU
KNOW IT, YOU
HAVE A HERO.

YOU KNOW
WHAT I'M
TALKING
ABOUT,
RIGHT?



OH YEAH,
I HEARD
SOMETHING.

THEY SAY THE
BUTTERFLY'S
LIVING 'ROUND
HERE NOW.

YOU REALLY
DIG THE
BUTTERFLY,
DONTCHA,
LOTANI?

HEH
HEH.

MAYBE SHE'S
GOING TO
YOUR MIDDLE
SCHOOL?

ARE YOU
SERIOUS,
SENPAI?

YEAH.
HEAR SHE GOT
HITCHED TO
SOME SQUARE
NAMED HONDA
AWHILE BACK.

THEY SAY
SHE'S GOT A
DAUGHTER
BOUT YOUR
AGE.

WAS THERE
A GIRL NAMED
HONDA AT MY
SCHOOL?

I DON'T
SEE HOW
I COULDA
MISSED A
GIRL LIKE
THAT.

It's not
like I go
to school
enough to
notice...

Imagination

IF SHE'S
KYOKO-SAN'S
DAUGHTER...

...I'LL BET
SHE'S
A REAL
YANKEE.

It's Uotani!

Scary...

crash

BUT IF I
PLAY MY
CARDS
RIGHT...

...I MIGHT
GET TO MEET
THE REAL
KYOKO-SAN!



SHE
SAID DON'T
STEP ON IT,
DUMBASS!!

WHAT'S
WITH
THIS
GIRL?

Ah!

PLEASE,
DON'T STEP
ON THAT...

UH, ER,
UM, DON'T
STEP ON...

AND
YOU! STOP
STANDING
AROUND
AND PICK
THOSE UP!!

YES!

AW, JEEZ.
YOU'RE KIDDING
ME, RIGHT?
MAKING ME PICK
UP AFTER YOU?!

IF YOU'RE
TRYING TO
MESS WITH
ME BY SAYING
YOU'RE THE RED
BUTTERFLY'S
DAUGHTER, I'LL
SEND YOU TO
THE NURSE'S
OFFICE..

HONDA?!

AH, UM,
TOHRU...
TOHRU
HONDA...

WHAT'S
YOUR NAME,
ANYWAY?!



SAY
GOODBYE
TO THOSE
PRETTY
TEETH.

OH...
YES!

THAT WAS MY
MOM'S NAME
FROM WHEN
SHE WAS IN
A GANG!



EH?

EH
?!!!

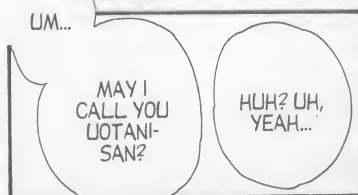
EH?!



ARE
YOU
SERIOUS?

THIS
...

PLEASE,
COME AND
SEE MY MOM!



WELCOME,
WELCOME,
WELCOME
HOME, TOHRU!

I'M
HOME.

YOU'RE...
HEAVY,
MOM.

WH--

IT'S DESTINY
THAT WE
MET ON
YOUR WAY
HOME!

SHE'S A
STRANGE
ONE, ALL
RIGHT...





THIS
PERSON
...

...IS
KYOKO.



NO
DOUBT
ABOUT
IT.

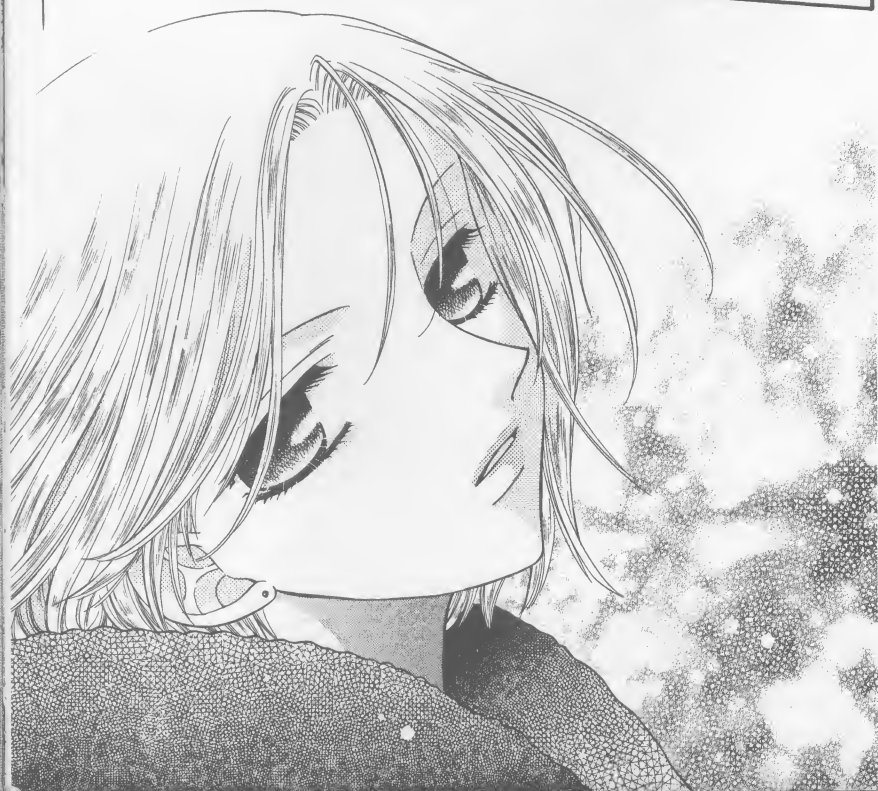
YUP.

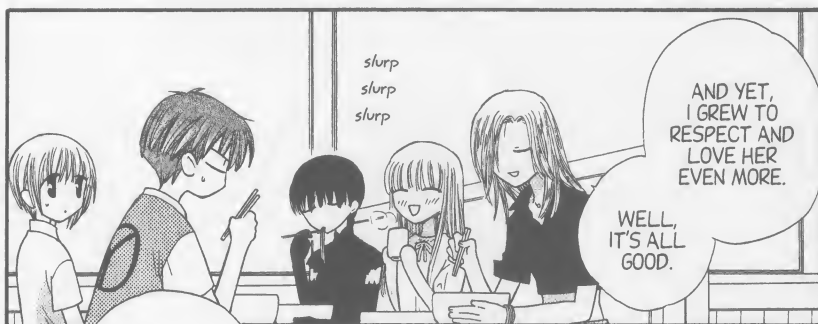
WHAT
THE...?

Listen,
listen!
Today--

Ah...
Mmm,
before
that...

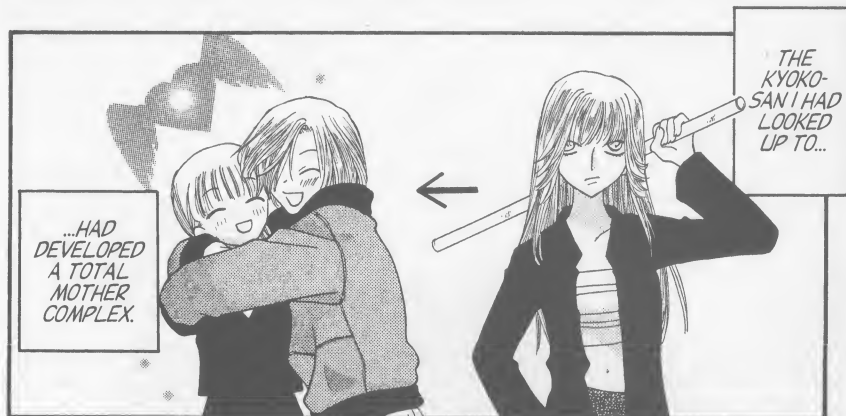
There's
some-
one who
wants to
meet...





Chapter 40





ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH, BLAH, BLAH 4

Having your heart shaken by a fictional character, or being made to cry for them, is very sad, but I think it's a good thing. I know it sounds negative, but it's really a positive experience. It is! I'm not making any sense, am I? No, I'm sorry.

Fruits Basket 7: Part 4

It was strange that, as the days went on, the hospital bed became "my bed." There was more and more of my stuff nearby. I hated that I couldn't play video games (laugh). Apparently, the day before my operation, my mother and people couldn't sleep. But, as usual, Takaya slept like a log! I thought again about how those situations are harder on the loved ones than they are on the actual patient. (It's a kind of torture, especially for family.) But when it came time for the actual surgery, even I had a hard time. Yup—I finally got scared. Yeah, it's scary, really...



BUT EVEN
THOUGH I WAS
CLEARLY
PISSED OFF...

OBLIVIOUSLY
SHE WOULD
BE DIFFERENT
FROM THE
IMAGE I HAD
CREATED.



...WAS
SMILING.

...KYOKO-
SAN...

...



MAN, I'M
SORRY.

...AND SHE
SMILED AND
FORGAVE ME.

SHE
UNDER-
STOOD
THE WAY
I FELT...



??!

"UO-CHAN"?!

BY THE WAY, UO-CHAN, WHILE YOU'RE HERE, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME DINNER?

YOUR NAME'S UOTANI, RIGHT? SO, UO-CHAN.



HUH...?

Hooray!

PLEASE EAT WITH US, UO-CHAN!



IT'S ALREADY CATCHING ON!!



THE PLACE IS SUCH A MESS.



MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.

gloom

ずん

THE RED BUTTERFLY IS DOING LAUNDRY...



OH, NO,
IT'S NOT ...

By the
way, what
are we
having?



NO, UM, I...
I'VE GOTTA
GET HOME.

WHAT'S THE
RUSH? HAVE
SOME DINNER
FIRST.

TOHRU'S
COOKING IS
GREAT!





COME ON,
WHY? IS YOUR
FAMILY THAT
STRICT?

NO,
REALLY.

I'M GOING
HOME.

す
す

YOU CAN'T
ASSUME
THAT.

PEOPLE
GROW UP IN
ALL SORTS
OF CIRCUM-
STANCES.

YEAH, RIGHT.
AS IF SOMEONE
LIKE ME COULD
HAVE STRICT
PARENTS.

.....



...AND A GOD-
DAMN DOTING
FRICKING
MOTHER!!

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
I EVER
LOOKED UP
TO YOU!

TO THINK THE
RED BUTTERFLY
TURNED OUT
TO BE A... A
HOUSEWIFE...
AND A FRIENDLY
HOSTESS...

I'M JUST
DISAPPOINTED,
OKAY!





WHY...

...AM I SO
ANNOYED?

...CALL MY
NAME LIKE
YOU'RE MY
FRIEND!

I HAVE NO
BUSINESS
WITH YOU
ANYMORE.

NOW, BUGGER
OFF AND GO
CRYING HOME
TO MOMMY.

SO
STUPID
...

YOUR
FAMILY
MAKES ME
SICK!!

IS IT
BECAUSE
SHE WAS SO
GODDAMN
CHEERFUL?

I
DON'T
KNOW
...

...SOME-
THING
ABOUT HER
ATTITUDE
JUST...

DID YOU GET
TO MEET THE
BUTTERFLY?



IT'S LIKE
I'M BEING
PRESSED
ON BY
SOME-
THING...

...BUT I
FEEL LIKE
I'M BEING
LEFT
BEHIND.

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH ME?



WHY
IS IT
BOTHERING
ME SO
MUCH?

WHAT WAS I
THINKING? THIS
ATTITUDE FITS
ME BETTER.

WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU
LOOKING AT,
BITCH?!

YOU WANT
TO DIE?!

YOU WANT A
SCAR THAT'LL
NEVER HEAL?!

ARE THEY
STUPID?

AIN'T
THAT
ALWAYS
THE
WAY?

MY OLD
MAN TOLD
ME NEVER
TO COME
BACK.

THEY'RE
THE ONES
THAT MADE
US THIS
WAY!

OH... I
DON'T CARE
ABOUT THAT
BITCH ANY-
MORE.

WHAT THE
HELL ARE WE
DOING WASTING
OUR TIME HERE
AT SCHOOL,
ANYWAY?

THERE'S
NOTHING TO
GAIN FROM
GOING.

.....

MY
OLD LADY
CALLED ME
TRASH—SAID
I WAS A DIS-
GRACE TO THE
FAMILY. CAN
YOU BELIEVE
THAT?

SOMEDAY
I'LL SMASH
THAT PRETTY
LITTLE FACE
OF HERS.



WHEN I WAS
IN FIRST
GRADE, MY
MOM GOT A
NEW BOY-
FRIEND AND
RAN OFF
WITH HIM.

SINCE
THEN, I'VE
LIVED
ALONE
WITH MY
FATHER.

ALL HE
DOES IS
DRINK.



Ah
ha
ha
ha...



I GOT
NOWHERE
TO GO
TODAY.

A PLACE I
COULD FALL
AS FAR AS
I WANTED.

GUESS I'LL
GO HOME
FOR ONCE.

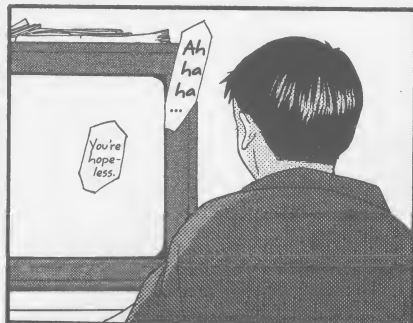
IT'S JUST
YOUR OLD
MAN AT
HOME,
RIGHT?



IF HE'S
ASLEEP,
SEE WHAT
YOU CAN
"BORROW."



YEAH! BRING
BACK SOME
MONEY.



crash

Ah
ha
ha
...





DON'T ACT
SO COCKY,
ROOKIE!!

THIS IS
OUR TURF.

DON'T
WALK
AROUND
LIKE YOU
OWN THE
PLACE!!

〽
〽
〽
punch

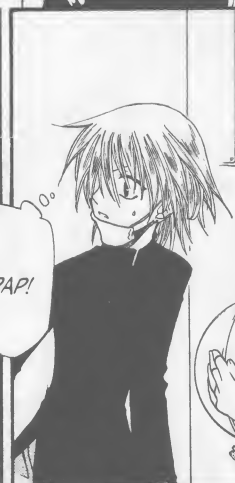
HEY, BRING
SOME MORE
PEOPLE!

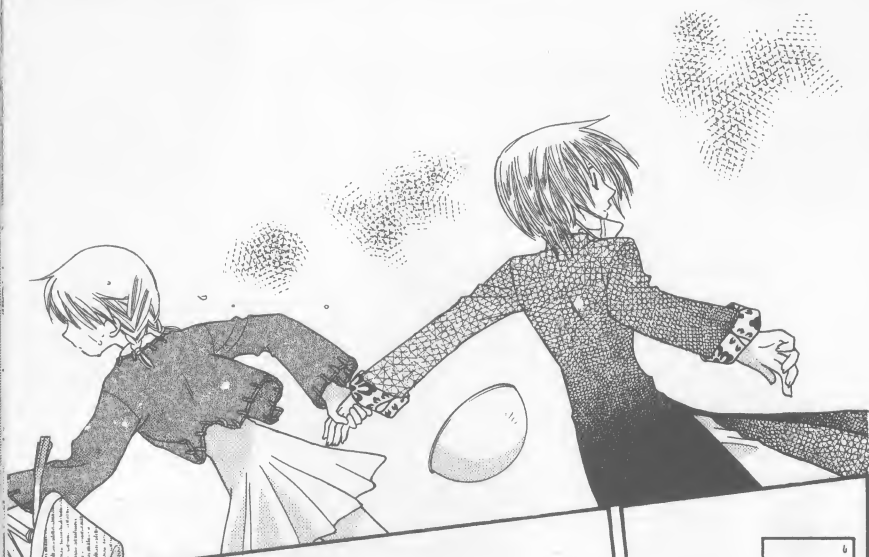
WE'LL
STRING
HER UP...

...MAKE HER
BEG FOR
MERCY!!

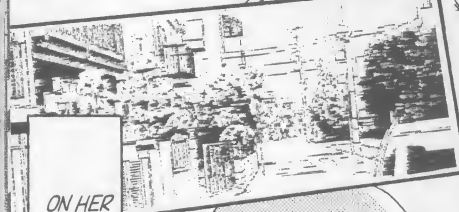
!!



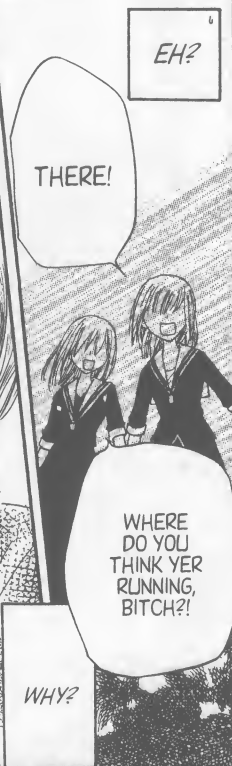




SHE
JUST--



ON HER
OWN--

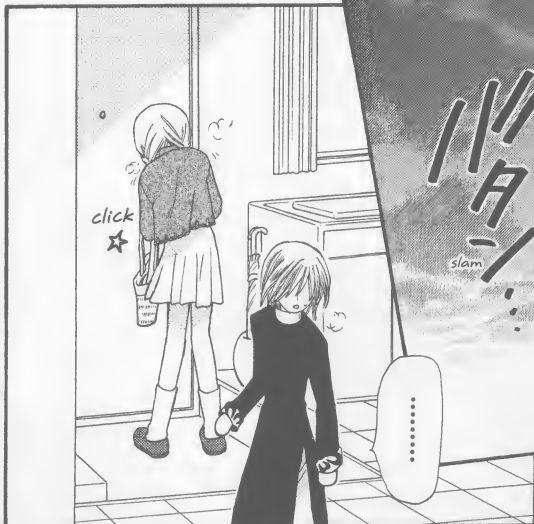


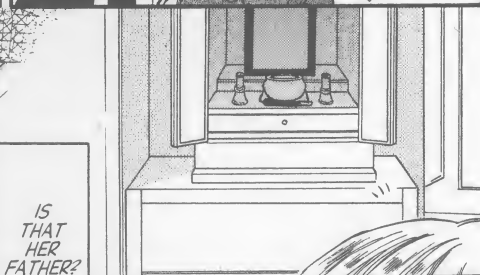
EH?

THERE!

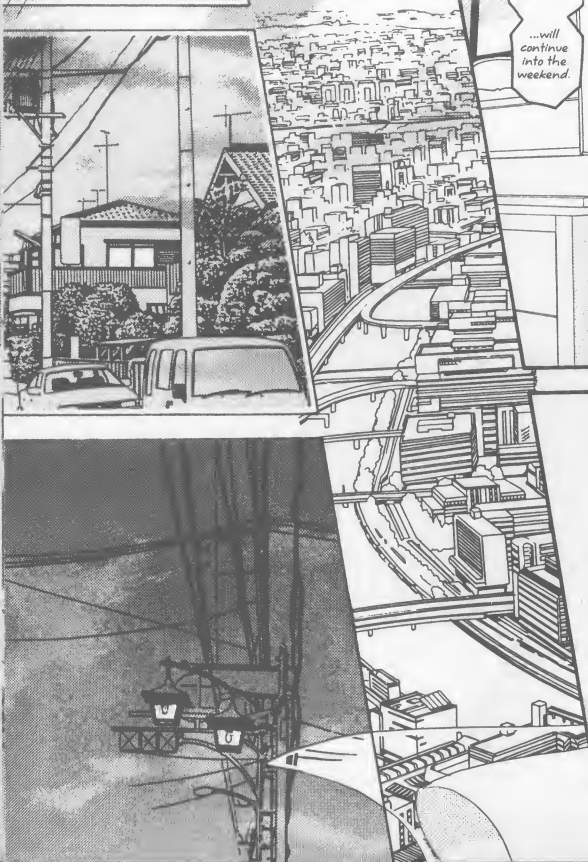
WHERE
DO YOU
THINK YER
RUNNING,
BITCH?!

WHY?











I'LL TRY.
IT'S JUST...
UNCOMFORTABLE.

WHAT-
EVER.

WE'D
REALLY
LIKE IT IF
YOU STAYED
FOR DINN--



UO-
CHA...

UOTANI-
SAN!

...I'D THINK
NOTHING OF
TELLING HIM...

...EVEN IF I
WAS USED
TO IT...

IT'S LIKE
I'M THE
ONLY
ONE WHO
DOESN'T
BELONG.

IT'S
INCOMFORTABLE.

BUT...

"YOU'RE NOT
MY FATHER!"
AND "DROP
DEAD!" ...

WHAT
DIFFERENCE
WOULD IT
MAKE IF I FELT
THAT WAY
OR NOT?

I'M STILL
THE SAME
PERSON.

THAT'S
JUST THE
WAY I AM.



I'M NOT
USED
TO THIS
WHOLE...

...FAMILY
VIBE.

I'VE NEVER
HAD IT.

EVEN IF THAT
DAMN FATHER
OF MINE
COOKED DINNER
AND WAITED
FOR ME...

...I'D SAY, "I'M
NOT COMING
BACK" AND
"THIS TASTES
LIKE CRAP"

...JEALOUS...

...OF THAT...

I'M STILL
THE SAME,
AREN'T I?

I'M SO
STUPID...

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH ME?

UO-CHAN?

THEY'RE
SO
PHONY!

NO
AH!

No, I
mean...

FOR ME
TO BE...

.....
!

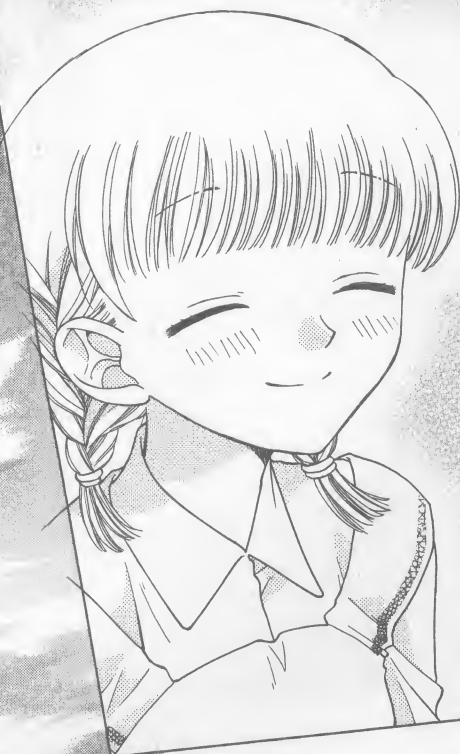
...WHAT?

A TOWN
AT DUSK...

THE SMELL
OF EVENING,
HOUSES
WITH
LIGHTS IN
THEM...

A HOUSE
TO GO HOME
TO AFTER
SAYING
GOODBYE TO
FRIENDS...

SOMEONE
WAITING
FOR MY
RETURN...



A KIND
PERSON...

...WHO
WOULD
GREET WITH
A SMILE...



"WHAT CAN
I SAY?"

"IT WAS
TIME TO
MOVE ON."

MAYBE
I'VE
JUST...

MAYBE
...

MAYBE
...

...I
WAS...

...LONELY.

...ALWAYS...

...BEEN
LONELY.

JUST A
LITTLE BIT OF
"ORDINARY."

A CHANCE TO BE
MYSELF AND NOT
HAVE TO MAKE
EXCUSES.

MAYBE
THAT'S WHAT
I'VE BEEN
LOOKING FOR.



LOVE...

AT ANY
RATE, IT'S
TOHRU
LOVE!

きゅ♡
squeeze

Heh.

WELL
...

NOW
YOU'VE HEARD
ABOUT MY
EMBARRASSING
ADOLESCENCE.

THAT'S
ENOUGH OF
THAT...



Nngh!

MAYBE
I SHOULD
STOP TALKING
ABOUT THIS
...

LIOTANI!

BUT YOU
NEVER...

...GOT TO THE
PART WHERE
YOU BECAME
FRIENDS WITH
TOHRU-SAN'S
MOTHER.

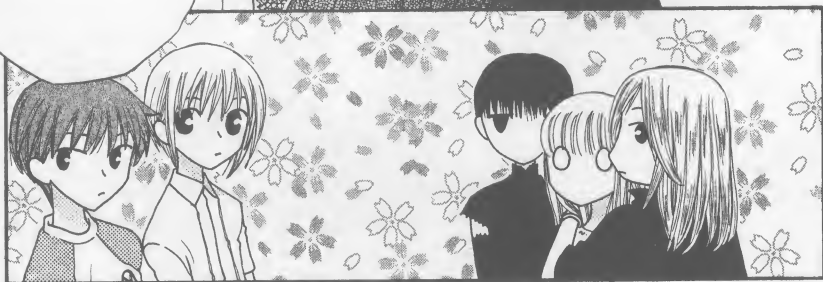
AH!

OH YEAH,
THAT WAS
A MEMORY
OF TOHRU,
WASN'T IT.



AND COME
ALONE.

COME
WITH US,
PUNK.



WE HAD NO CHOICE!
THAT DEVELOPING
PLACE CLOSES EARLY!

Hey!

WAIT,
LUTANI!

SEE? WE
SHOULD HAVE
TALKED TO
HER SOONER!

IT'S BECAUSE
WE WENT TO
GET THE FILM
DEVELOPED!!

YES... I AM
FULL...

LET'S
BLOW
THIS
JOINT.

SHE'S NOT
LISTENING?!





I CAN'T
TELL
THEM
THE REST
OF THE
STORY.

IT'S A LITTLE
EMBARRASSING
...

...WHAT I
WAS LIKE
AFTER
THAT.



I feel so grateful!



...da

Harada-sama, Araki-sama,
Mom, Dad...

All the people who worked to
create the anime, all the voice
actors...

From a certain medical school,
T-sensei-sama, I-sensei-sama, all
the nurses... From a certain
hospital, K-sensei-sama, the
accupuncturist, K-sensei-sama...

To everyone who reads and supports
this manga...

Everyone who waited patiently...

And...

Thank you so much for the Christmas presents,
birthday presents and Valentine's chocolate!
I couldn't have got better without you!

Next is Haru.

—Natsuki Takaya





ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH, BLAH, BLAH 5

Has anyone noticed what's written on Uo-chan's sleeve on the title page to this chapter? It says "Fruits Basket" in phonetic kanji. I was playing around. I'm sorry (laugh).



MAKING
FUN OF
US...

WE MAY
JUST BE
DELINQUENTS
...

...BUT WE'LL BEAT
THE CRAP OUT
OF PEOPLE LIKE
YOU WHO THINK
THEY'RE BETTER
THAN EVERYONE
ELSE! WE'LL GET
A REPUTATION...

...AND
MAKE THIS
TERRITORY
OURS.



YANKEES!
POSERS.

AND
WHAT ARE
YOU!?!

たぶん



WE WILL
BUILD AN
ARMY OF
DELINQUENTS
TO BE
FEARED!!

SHE
HAS NO
HEART!!

GOOD LUCK
WITH THAT.

MAN... I CAN'T
BELIEVE I
USED TO BE
LIKE THAT...

I WANTED
PEOPLE
TO NOTICE
ME...

...BUT I
ACTED LIKE
I WANTED
TO BE LEFT
ALONE.

WHAT'S
GOING ON?

*Army of
delinquents?*

I ADMIRE
YOUR NERVE.
BRING IT ON!!

AAHH,
CUT IT
OUT.

SHOULD I
TAKE THEM
ON...?

DON'T.

Back then...

SO WHY DO
ADULTS ACT
SO HIGH AND
MIGHTY?

Uwah!

I'M SORRY!

AFTER
THAT, I
STARTED
GOING TO
THE HONDA
PLACE
A LOT.

EVEN
ADULTS?

EVERY-
ONE'S
LIKE
THAT.
Even me.

NO MATTER
HOW OLD
YOU GET,
YOU NEVER
STOP BEING
SELFISH.

SHELLING'S
DONE!

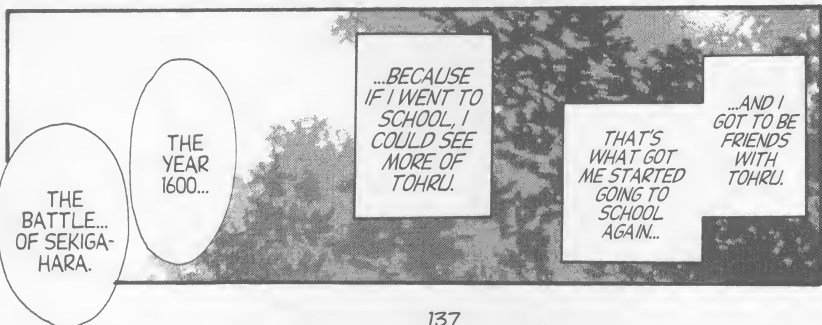
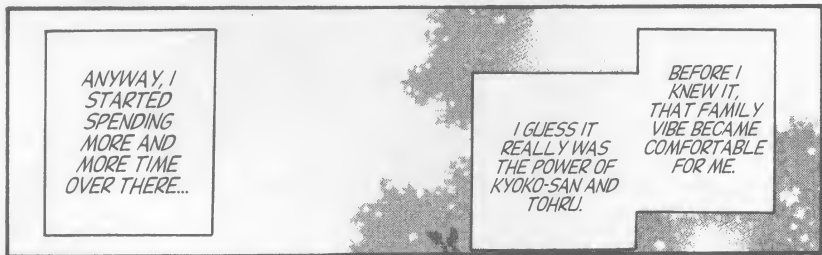
THANK
YOU!

All right!

KYOKO-SAN
ALWAYS
WELCOMED
ME LIKE
ONE OF THE
FAMILY...

...AND
LISTENED
TO MY
IMMATURE
STORIES...

SHE
REALLY
CARED
ABOUT ME.





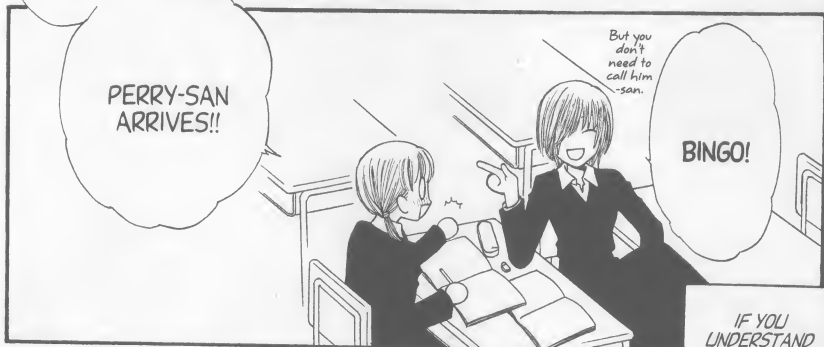
HINT
TWO:
SHIP.

HINT ONE:
FOREIGNERS.



1853...

UM...
LET'S
SEE...

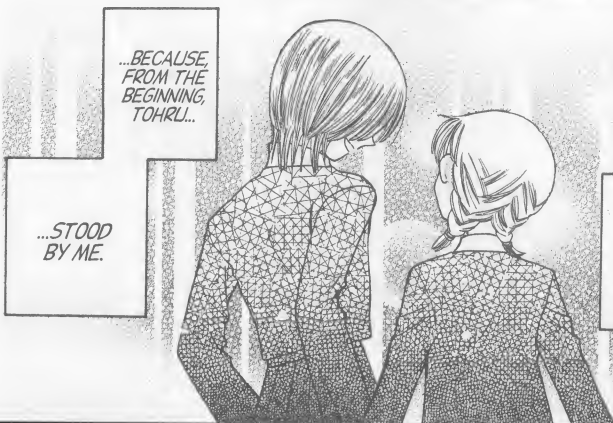


PERRY-SAN
ARRIVES!!

But you
don't
need to
call him
-san.

BINGO!

IF YOU
UNDERSTAND
WHAT YOU'RE
STUDYING, IT'S
ACTUALLY
KINDA
INTERESTING.



...BECAUSE
FROM THE
BEGINNING,
TOHRU...

...STOOD
BY ME.

IT WAS EASY
TO MAKE
FRIENDS
WITH TOHRU...



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?!

WHAT?

I'M JUST
TALKING
TO HER.

WHEREVER I
WENT, WHEN-
EVER I WAS
FEELING DOWN,
I COULD TURN
AROUND...

...AND
TOHRU
WOULD BE
STANDING
THERE.

LOTANI-
SAN!



APPARENTLY
NO ONE
AROUND US...


...COULD
BELIEVE
THAT WE
WERE
FRIENDS.



EH...?



BUT...



WHAT THE
HELL? PISSES
ME OFF!

I HEAR
SHE'S GONE
STRAIGHT
AND GOES
TO SCHOOL
NOW.

I HAVEN'T
SEEN
LOTANI
AROUND.

NOT THAT
I COULD
BLAME
THEM.



CALL
HER!

WE HAVE
TO TEACH
HER A
LESSON.



EH!



EH?!!

YOU AND
LOTANI-
SAN...

...ARE
BEST
FRIENDS?

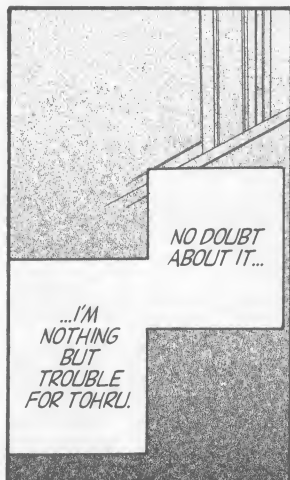


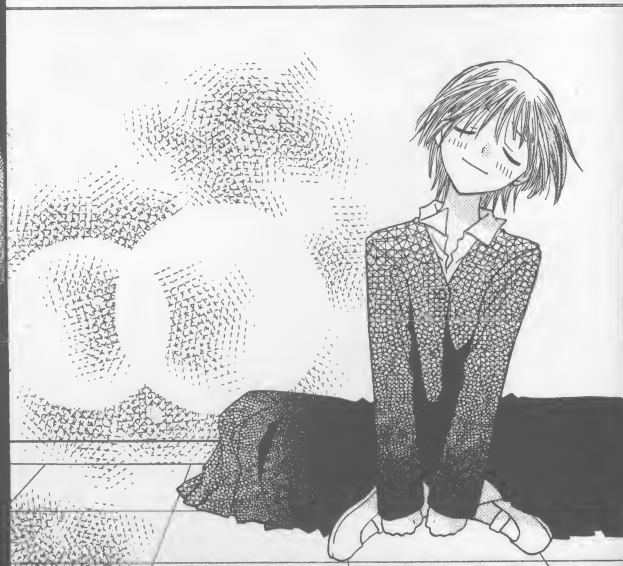
gloom



blush







AHH!?

WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?

MORON!

LOTANI
SAYS SHE
WANTS TO
LEAVE!!

YOU
WANT
OUT!?



I
WANTED
TO RUN...

...BUT...



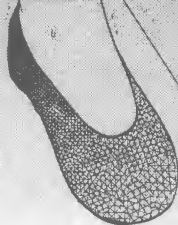
BUT...



TAKE
THIS!

GATHER
EVERY-
ONE!

...CRAP.



I WAS
SCARED.

I WANTED
TO RUN.

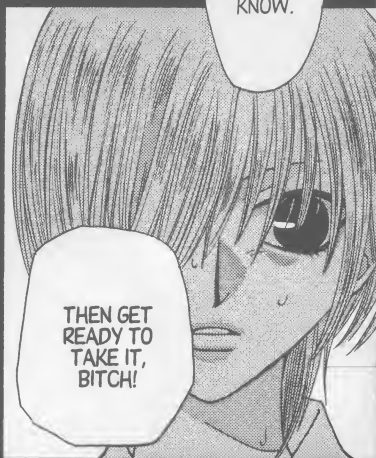
YOU
THINK WE'D
JUST SAY,
"OH REALLY?,"
AND LET
YOU GO?

YOU
KNOW THE
PUNISHMENT
FOR LEAVING,
DON'T YOU?



.....
I
KNOW.

THEN GET
READY TO
TAKE IT,
BITCH!





I ALSO...

*I ALSO
WANTED TO
CHANGE.*

*I'D NEVER
FELT THAT
WAY BEFORE.*

...BECAUSE...

*"I'M THROUGH
BEING LIKE THIS,"
I THOUGHT.
I WANTED TO
CHANGE.*

*...BECAUSE
I...*

*I WANTED
TO CHANGE...*





KYO...



...KO...

...SAN?

YOU
AWAKE?

UH...!

?!
カバッ

startle

KYOK--!

DON'T
MOVE,
DON'T
MOVE.

YOUR
LEG'S
INJURED.

IT
REALLY
WASN'T A
DREAM!!

Fruits Basket 7: Part 5

Before I was hospitalized, I played video games, but since I couldn't use my left hand, I used my right hand... I mean I used only my right hand. And doing that I realized how much I love analog controllers! They really helped me out this time! I could use those even with my injured left hand.



I can grind it with my fist.

I still have that habit, so when I have to use the directional pad, I feel inconvenienced.... Speaking of which, are they still making left-handed controllers? I want one.... A long time ago, when I was working part-time jobs, it seemed like all the office supplies were made for right-handed people. I cried... (laugh). I thought, "Why must I be left-handed?!"



"I CAN'T STOP THEM MYSELF-- HELP UOTANI!!" SHE SAID.

EH...?

She saw the address in your notebook.

A SENPAI OF YOURS CAME TO OUR HOUSE.

A GIRL WITH A MOLE BY HER MOUTH.

THAT GIRL...



I LIKE HER.

IF SHE WANTS TO LIVE RESPECTABLY, SHE SHOULD.



SHE SHOULD HAVE THE LIFE SHE WANTS.

THAT GIRL...

IT'S NOT
AMAZING...

THAT'S
AMAZING.

BUT TO
LEAVE YOUR
GANG...I'M
SHOCKED.

IT JUST
CAUSED
PROBLEMS...
EVEN FOR
YOU, KYOKO-
SAN.

Ah
ha
ha!

NOT REALLY.
ALL I DID WAS
BEAT OFF SOME
KIDS AND RUN
AWAY.

That's not cool.

THERE ARE
A LOT OF
PEOPLE WHO
CAME MUCH
CLOSER TO
DEATH TRYING
TO LEAVE
THEIR GANGS.

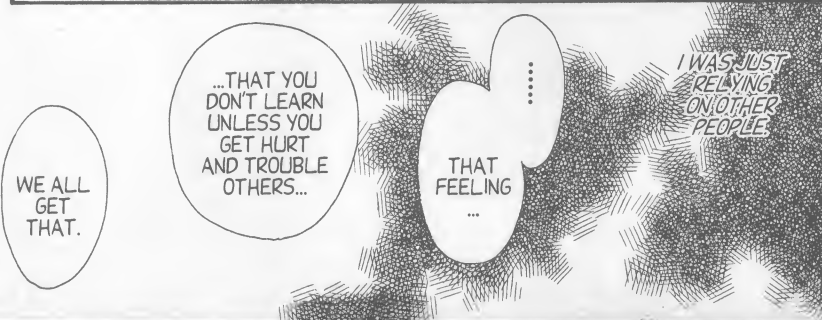
YOU HAD A
KIND SENPAI.

BUT...
YOU'RE
LUCKY.



SENPAI...





FOR THERE
TO BE PAIN,
THERE HAS TO
BE KINDNESS.

ALL
THIS TIME
YOU'VE TRIED
TO KEEP
AWAY THE
BEAUTIFUL
THINGS IN
LIFE...

BUT
THERE'S
ANOTHER
FEELING
YOU GET
ONCE YOU'VE
FALLEN AS
LOW AS
YOU CAN...

A
MOMENT
OF TRUE
CLARITY.

FOR DARKNESS
TO STAND OUT,
THERE HAS TO
BE THE SUN.

...BUT
SUDDENLY
YOU FEEL
CONFUSED.

YOU CAN'T
HAVE ONE
WITHOUT
THE OTHER.

YOU BEGIN
TO LOVE THE
BEAUTIFUL
THINGS.

AND BOTH
HAVE THEIR
USES.

WHEN YOU
REACH THAT
POINT, IT
CHANGES
EVERYTHING.





SO EVEN
IF YOU
STUMBLE
AND MAKE
MISTAKES...

...THAT'S NOT
USELESS.

THAT'S...

...MY
PHILOSOPHY.

THINK
OF IT LIKE
FERTILIZER.
SURE IT FEELS
LIKE CRAP...

...BUT IT
WILL HELP
YOU GROW!



I...WANT
TO BE...

...TOHRU'S
BEST
FRIEND!

I...

THAT
WAS THE
THOUGHT...

...THAT MADE
ME WANT
TO CHANGE
MYSELF...

...AND MAKES ME
WANT TO KEEP
ON CHANGING,
STILL.



...YEAH.



A
FRIEND
...

...TOHRU
CAN BE
PROUD OF.

THAT'S
THE
KIND OF
FRIEND...

...I WANT
TO BE!

BEING
CARRIED
ON HER
BACK AND
CRYING
LIKE A
BABY...

...I'M A LITTLE
EMBARRASSED.

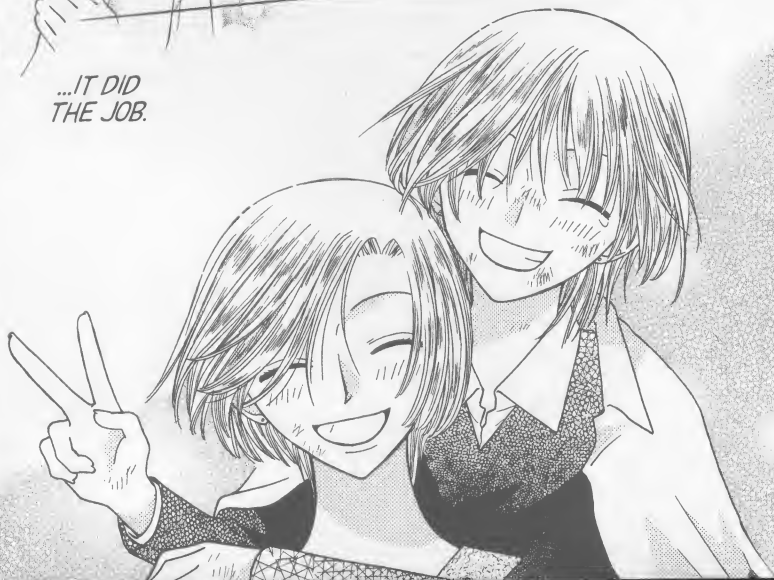


BUT...

THINKING
BACK ON
IT NOW...



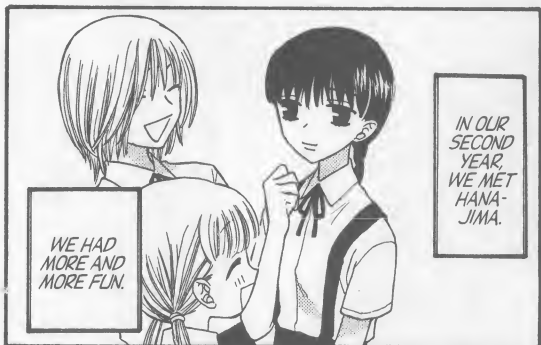
...IT DID
THE JOB.





I HEARD
A RUMOR
THAT SHE
MOVED
FAR AWAY.

I NEVER
SAW
SEMPAI
AFTER
THAT.



WE HAD
MORE AND
MORE FUN.

IN OUR
SECOND
YEAR,
WE MET
HANA-
JIMA.



...SHE'S NOT
REALLY
GONE, RIGHT?

KYOKO-
SAN WOULD
LAUGH
PLEASANTLY,
TOO.

BUT
EVEN
THOUGH
SHE'S
GONE...



PEOPLE
STILL PICKED
FIGHTS WITH
ME FOR
A WHILE
AFTER THAT
...

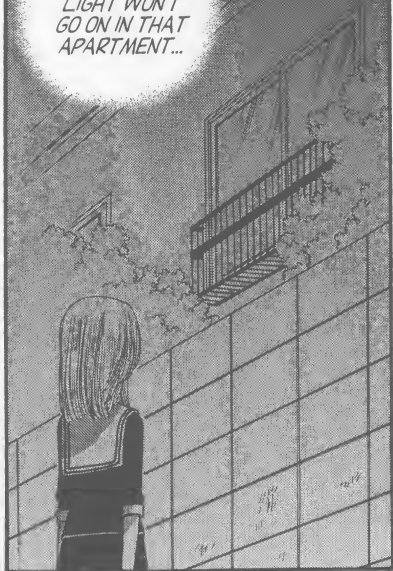
...BUT
SOME-
HOW I
MADE IT
THROUGH.

IT
REALLY IS
AMAZING
TO NOT
BE ALONE.



...IS A LIE,
RIGHT?

THAT THE
LIGHT WON'T
GO ON IN THAT
APARTMENT...



I LOVED
HER.

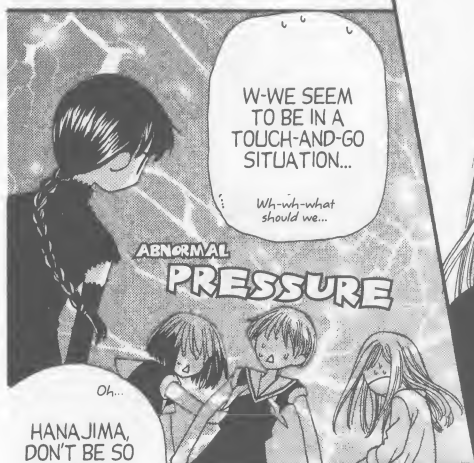
SHE WOULD
GO SAVE A
KID TO WHOM
SHE OWED
NOTHING.

I LOVED
HER.

THAT WARM
KYOKO-SAN...

A GOOD
PERSON,
ALWAYS
DIRECT...

UO-
CHAN...



W-WE SEEM
TO BE IN A
TOUCH-AND-GO
SITUATION...

Wh-wh-what
should we...

**ABNORMAL
PRESSURE**

Oh...

HANAJIMA,
DON'T BE SO
SERIOUS;
THEY'RE
JUST KIDS.

Oh my.

I'M ONLY
PLAYING
WITH
THEM...



UO-
CHAN...

EH?

OH. WHAT?
WHAT'S
WRONG?



I'LL
SEND
YOU
FLYING!!

AH...!



ERK!

DAMMIT,
STOP
SCREWING
AROUND!

DON'T THINK
THAT JUST
BECAUSE WE
QUIETED DOWN,
WE'RE NOT
STILL GOING
TO KICK YOUR
ASS!

YOU'RE
NOT
QUIET.

Sh-
**SHUT
UP!**





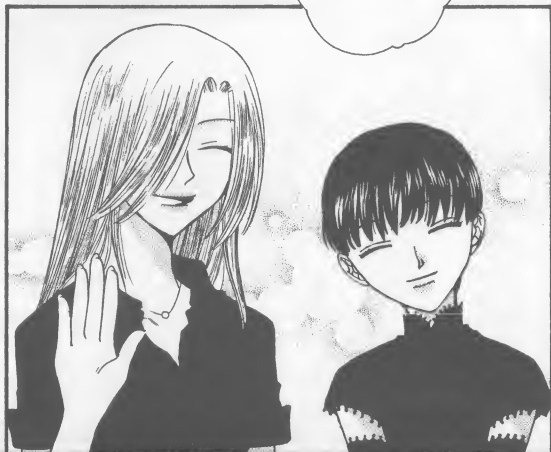
I CAN'T SEE
KYOKO-SAN...

...ANYMORE...

...BUT SHE
LEFT ME
SOMETHING...

HER
ADVICE, HER
FEELINGS

...AND
TOHRI!





THE DOCTOR
TOLD YOU TO
LAY OFF THE
SALT!

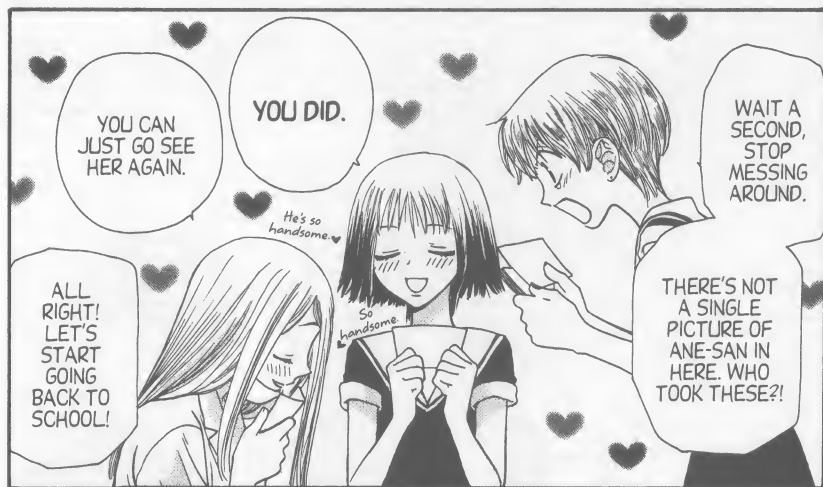
OH, YOU
CAUGHT ME.

DON'T BE CUTE!
AND LAY OFF
THE BOOZE,
WHILE YOU'RE
AT IT!

THEY
ALL...

...ALL
BECOME
FERTILIZER
TO HELP
ME GROW.

OLD
MAN!



YOU CAN
JUST GO SEE
HER AGAIN.

YOU DID.

He's so
handsome.

ALL
RIGHT!
LET'S
START
GOING
BACK TO
SCHOOL!

So
handsome.

WAIT A
SECOND,
STOP
MESSING
AROUND.

THERE'S NOT
A SINGLE
PICTURE OF
ANE-SAN IN
HERE. WHO
TOOK THESE?!

Chapter 42



I LOVE
YUKI.

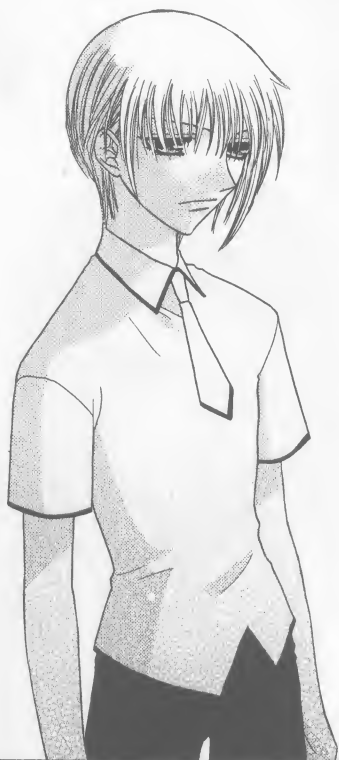
HIS
RESONATING
VOICE...

HIS HAIR
THAT
SHINES
SILVER IN
THE SUN...

HIS
WHITE
SKIN...

EVERYTHING
THAT IS
YUKI IS MY
EVERYTHING.

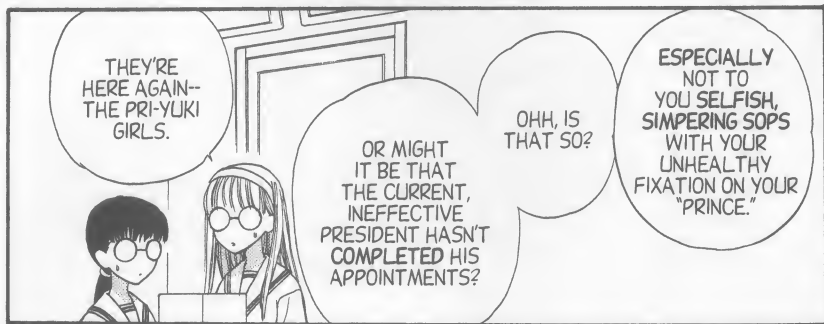
HIS EYE-
LASHES
THAT CAST
SHADOWS ON
HIS CHEEKS
WHEN HE
CLOSES HIS
EYES...



ULTRA-SPECIAL BLAH, BLAH, BLAH 6

Seeing the form of a cheerful girl reminds me the earth is still spinning and all is right in the world...but... When Mio (the Yuki-Club first year rep) becomes president, Yuki will have already graduated... Or so someone reminded me...and they were absolutely correct (laugh). I was wrong. So careless.

But that is, it's...okay...or isn't it? (laugh)





THAT'S THE ONLY POINT THAT WE ARE CONCERNED WITH!!

ALL I'M ASKING IS IF THERE ARE WOMEN ON THE NEW COUNCIL.

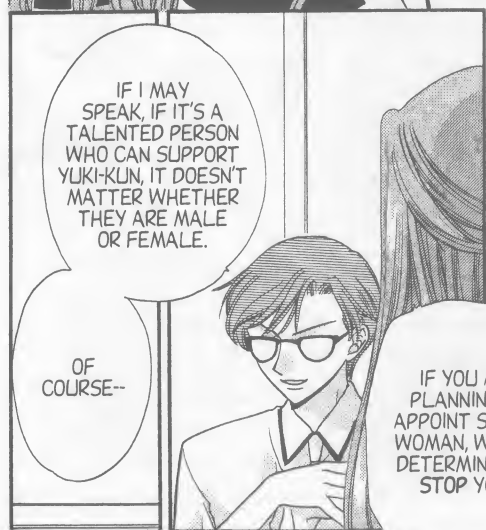
ARE THE NEW MEMBERS SUCH A SECRET?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE BIG DEAL IS.

IT'S NOT LIKE...

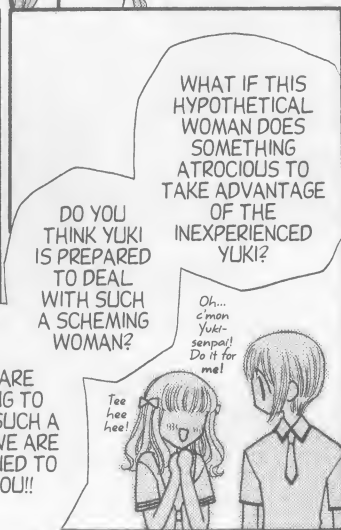
I SEE...

....I'M ASKING YOU TO TELL US ALL OF THEIR NAMES!



IF I MAY SPEAK, IF IT'S A TALENTED PERSON WHO CAN SUPPORT YUKI-KUN, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER THEY ARE MALE OR FEMALE.

OF COURSE--



WHAT IF THIS HYPOTHETICAL WOMAN DOES SOMETHING ATROCIOUS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE INEXPERIENCED YUKI?

DO YOU THINK YUKI IS PREPARED TO DEAL WITH SUCH A SCHEMING WOMAN?

Oh... c'mon Yuki-senpai! Do it for me!

Tee hee hee!

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO APPOINT SUCH A WOMAN, WE ARE DETERMINED TO STOP YOU!!



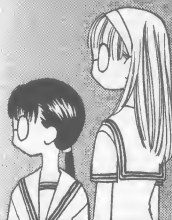
IF IT WERE POSSIBLE, I, MAKOTO TAKEI, WOULD DO ANYTHING TO SUPPORT MY LOVELY YUKI-KUN MYSELF, EVEN IF IT MEANS REPEATING SENIOR YEAR!!

AND IF IT WERE POSSIBLE, I WISH YUKI WOULD SKIP A YEAR AND GRADUATE SO WE COULD ENJOY COLLEGE TOGETHER!!

Those two will continue to argue until they graduate!

Yeah, well at least I get to look him in the eye!

AND YOU CALLED US SELFISH AND FIXATED?



LET'S CONSIDER IT.

IN THIS CASE, SHOULD WE SNEAK IN?

To the student council room.



HE PLANS TO KEEP QUIET UNTIL THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

SIGH...

SO PRESIDENT TAKEI DIDN'T CRACK TODAY, EITHER.

SHOULDN'T YOU
BE DECIDING
SOON WHO THE
NEW PRESIDENT
OF THE PRINCE
YUKI CLUB WILL
BE ?

YES?!

IT BOTHERS
ME THE
WAY THAT
STUPID
PRESIDENT
REFUSES TO
ANSWER...

COULD THAT
IN ITSELF
PROVE THAT
THERE'S A
WOMAN IN THE
NEW COUNCIL?

AHH...
OBVIOUSLY
IT WOULD BE
A FOOLISH,
SELFISH,
ARROGANT
WOMAN...

THIS IS
A CRISIS
FOR YUKI!!!

UM, BY
THE WAY,
MOTOKO-
SENPAI?

And
after you,
Minami-
senpai, the
next president
...
...will
surely be
me!

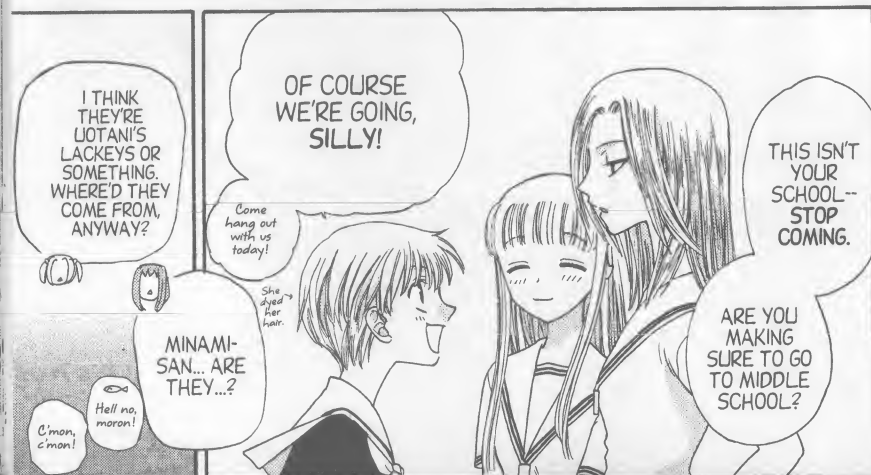
Y-YES,
YOU'RE
RIGHT. VERY
GOOD.

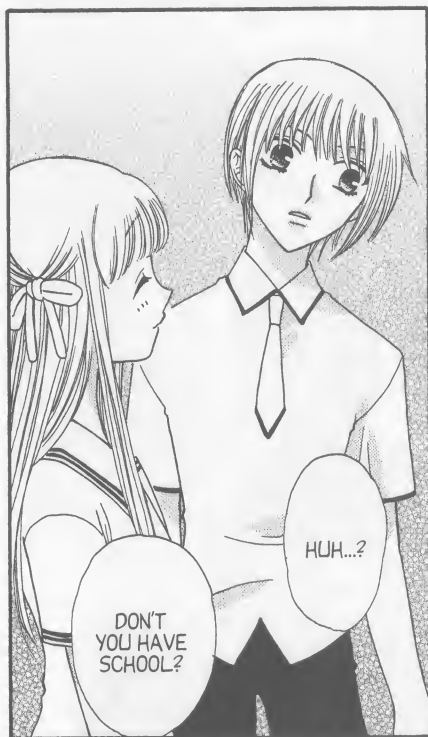
NOW
ABOUT
THAT
REPORT...

THE PRESIDENT
NEXT SEMESTER
WILL CERTAINLY
BE ME, MINAMI
KINOSHITA! PLEASE
LEAVE IT TO
MINAMI KINOSHITA!

YOU'LL BE
GRADUATING
SOON, MOTOKO-
SENPAI...

After
all is
said and
done...





DON'T
YOU HAVE
SCHOOL?

HUH...?

IT'S BEEN
TIED UP WITH
A WITCH, A
DEMON LORD,
AND YANKEES!

WHAT IS
IT? WHAT
IS WRONG
WITH THIS
SCHOOL
YEAR?!

AT THIS
RATE, YUKI
COULDN'T HAVE
A WHOLESOME
LIFE AT SCHOOL
EVEN IF HE
WANTED TO!



Ah!

YUKI-
SENPAI!!!



Eh...?

Ah...
...?

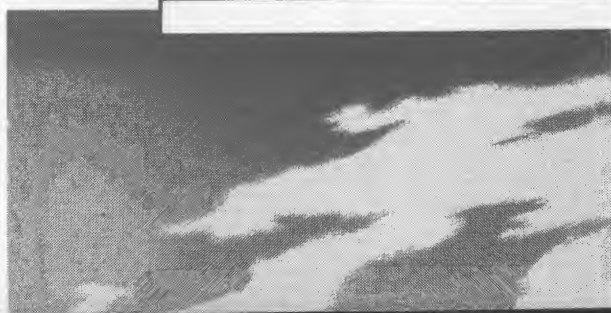
I dyed
my hair
...

I tried
drawing
in eye-
brows!

Ahhh,
those
brats!

Fruits Basket 7:
Part 6

Anyway...
Anyway, I
wanted to draw
again, so I
continued to do
my best. I think
it's good that I
did. The possibil-
ity of it happen-
ing again isn't
zero, so I might
scare myself
and the people
around me, but
I was so happy
that I recovered.
I'm praying
that I can draw
Furuba to the
end, and I will
keep doing my
best. To all you
readers who
encouraged me,
thank you very
much. All I can
ask is that you
to please enjoy
Fruits Basket.
Well then, see
you again soon!



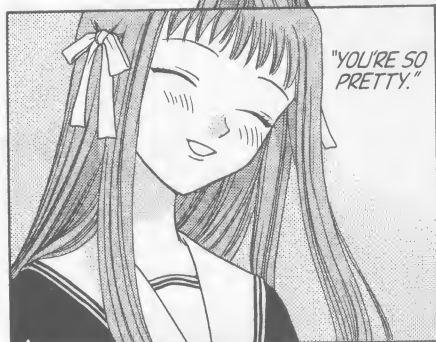
I'LL BE
GRADUATING
THIS
SPRING...

YUKI...

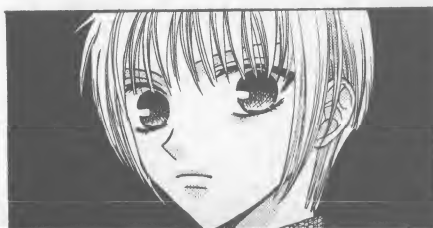
...AND
WHEN THAT
HAPPENS, I
WON'T CATCH
AS MANY
GLIMPSES
OF YOU AT
SCHOOL.

I WON'T
HAVE AS
MANY
CHANCES
TO SPEAK
WITH YOU.

.....



"YOU'RE SO
PRETTY."



...THE DAY A
YEAR AND A
HALF AGO
WHEN I FIRST
EXCHANGED
WORDS
WITH YOU.

EVEN NOW,
I HAVEN'T
FORGOTTEN
...



"YUKI...
KLIN?"

YUKI...!!

SINCE THEN,
I KNEW OUR
DESTINIES
WERE
INTERTWINED!

BUT NOW
THE THOUGHT
OF YOU
LEAVING IS
LIKE A SWEET
PAIN IN MY
HEART!

"...THANK
YOU!"

KEEP IT DOWN,
MOTOKO!! YOU'RE
BOTHERING THE
NEIGHBORS!!

Stupid
girl!!

ガラッ

WHAT?! I'M
NOT TWELVE
ANYMORE,
MOM! I'LL DO
WHATEVER
I WANT!

DAMN
HAG.

The
Minagawas
are at it
again.

woof
art-art

皆川八百屋

Sign: Minagawa Produce



NOW YOU
SEE WHY I'VE
REACHED THE
END OF MY
PATIENCE!

HE'S SO
STUBBORN.



IT'S TIME WE
TAKE DRASTIC
MEASURES--WE
INFILTRATE
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL ROOM!

I SEE...
THAT'S
WHY YOU
CALLED
ME?



...AND I
WON'T.

I SAID
I WON'T
TELL
YOU...



...THAT
I CAN'T
OPEN!!

THERE'S
NO LOCK
IN THE
SCHOOL...



THAT IS
CORRECT.

YOU'LL DO
IT, WON'T YOU?
PRINCE YUKI
CLUB THIRD YEAR
MEMBER RIKA
AIDA-SAN?

OF COURSE.
I WOULD DO
ANYTHING FOR
YUKI!...DON'T
WORRY.



MAY I NEVER
BE ON HER
BAD SIDE...

TO THINK
RIKA-SENPAI
HAD SUCH A
SKILL...

THAT'S
JUST WHAT
I WANTED
TO HEAR!

TAKE NOTE,
YOU TWO!



FOR NOW,
WE CAN
AT LEAST
LOOK.

カラッ

BUT THERE
MAY BE
SOMETHING
ELSE OF
VALUE.



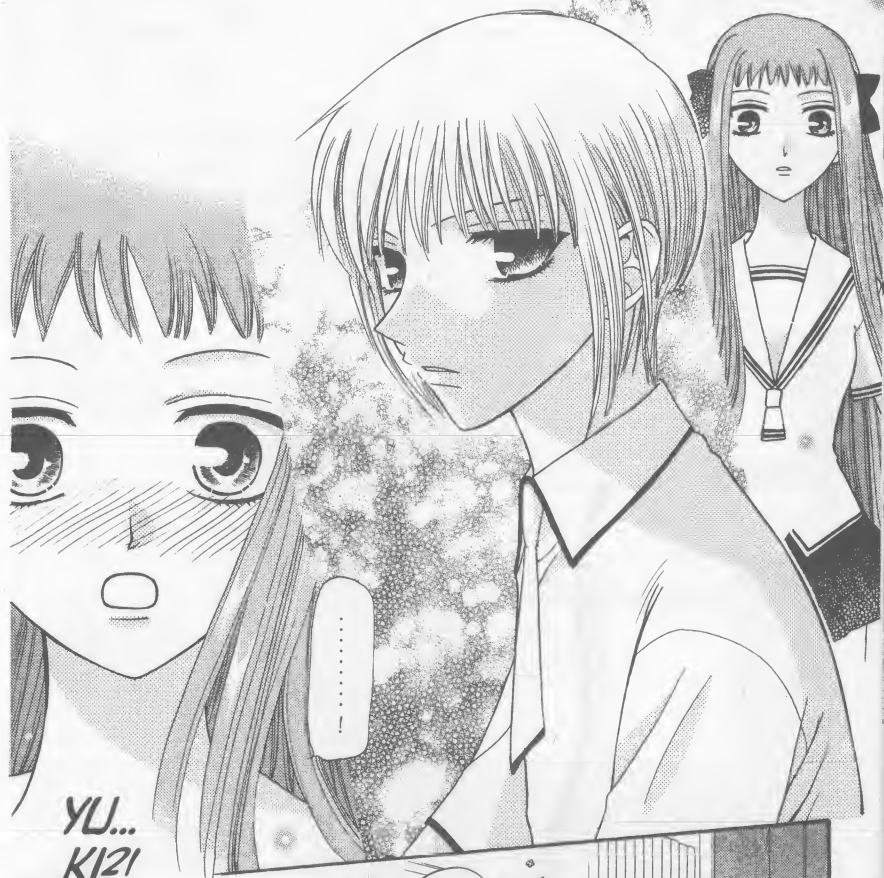
IT WOULD HELP
IF YOU COULD
PROVIDE ME WITH
A SKETCH OF THE
COUNCIL ROOM.

I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
IT'S LIKE ON
THE INSIDE.

SHALL WE
LOOK IT
UP IN THE
REFERENCE
ROOM?



THERE WON'T
BE ANY SUCH
REFERENCE
IN THERE.



YU...
KI?!



WHAT A
COINCIDENCE!
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

Y
U
K
I
!

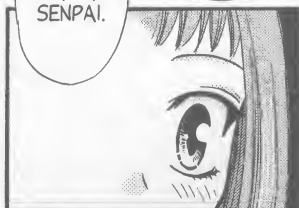
OH... I'M
MAKING A
SCHEDULE
FOR THE
CLASS TRIP...

There's not much
time left.



LONG
TIME, NO
SEE, AIDA-
SENPAI.

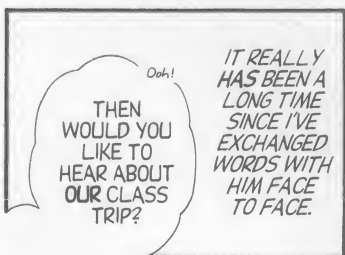
MINA-
GAWA-
SENPAI.



IT'S YUKI.
YUKI IN THE
FLESH!

NO MATTER
HOW YOU
LOOK AT IT,
IT'S YUKI!!!

HERE I CAN
LOOK UP
PAST TRIPS.



Ooh!
THEN
WOULD YOU
LIKE TO
HEAR ABOUT
OUR CLASS
TRIP?

IT REALLY
HAS BEEN A
LONG TIME
SINCE I'VE
EXCHANGED
WORDS WITH
HIM FACE
TO FACE.



IT
MIGHT BE
INFORMATIVE,
RIGHT,
MOTOKO?

AH,
YES!!



y-

YES...

AHH...



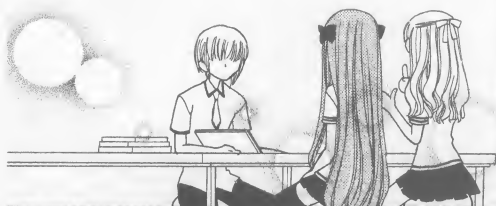
MY CHANCE
HAS COME!!

YES. THIS IS
A BLESSING
BESTOWED
UPON ME BY
THE GODDESS
OF DESTINY.

I HAVE TO MAKE
THE CONVERSATION
AS LONG AS I CAN!!

ALL
RIGHT.

IF YOU
REALLY
DON'T
MIND.



HERE...

HERE, I MUST
ENCOURAGE
CONVERSATION,
AND IN SO DOING,
GAIN HIS FAVOR.

I MUST SPEAK
AND ACT SUCH
THAT YUKI WILL
HONOR ME WITH
EYE CONTACT!!





WHAT DID
YOU HAVE FOR
BREAKFAST?!



I'M ALREADY
COMING TO MY
COUNTDOWN UNTIL
GRADUATION.
THIS IS MY
CHANCE!

I CAN'T
AFFORD TO
MESS IT UP!!

YU-

y-y--

YUKI!!



AH...
I MEAN,
BREAKFAST
IS THE FIRST
STEP TO
EVERY DAY...
IT'S IMPORTANT...

...SO YOU CAN
SPEND THE
WHOLE DAY
FULL OF
ENERGY AND
VIGOR...

I
MESSED
UP!!!



...BREAK-
FAST?



WHY
DO YOU
ASK?

PRINCE
CHARMING...

...EATS
NATTO?



THIS
MORNING
...

...I HAD RICE,
VEGETABLE
MISO SOUP,
FISH, NIMONO*

...AND
NATTO*.



I DON'T CARE
WHAT OTHER
PEOPLE SAY,
SOYBEANS
ARE THE
STEAK OF
THE FIELD!

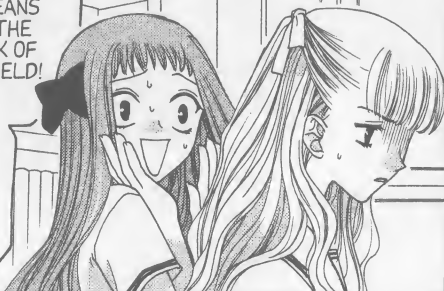
B-B-BUT NATTO
IS VERY GOOD
FOR BEAUTY
AND HEALTH
AND ULCERS,
RIGHT?!

UM...
THAT'S A
LITTLE...

REALLY?

SO DO I.

I LIKE
GROUND
BARLEY,
TOO!



*nimono: stewed or boiled foods.
*natto: fermented soybean paste (it's really sticky and stinky).

MINAGAWA-
SENPAI?

YUKI
SMILED
AT ME!!

GASP!
DOES IT
BOTHER
YOU? DOES
IT BOTHER
YOU?!

DO YOU
ALWAYS
SPEAK
FORMALLY?

AHH... YUKI
REALLY DOES
HAVE A
MILLION-
VOLT SMILE.

EH? AH...
YES?

YES,
I DO... IS
SOMETHING
WRONG?

WE HAVE
SOMETHING
IN COMMON!!

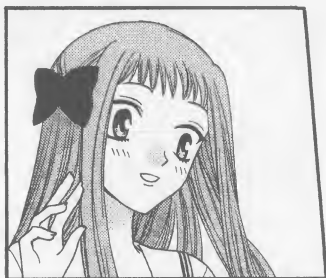
REALLY?
REALLY?
YUKI LIKES
GROUND
BARLEY?!

AH, NO,
THAT'S
NOT IT.

I MEAN...

...NO.

...MINAGAWA-
SENPAI?



EH...?

OH NO,
MOTOKO!
HE JUST...

...SAID
YOU'RE
CUTE!



IT'S
CUTE.



WHEN DID
HE START
SMILING SO
TENDERLY?

IT'S
SOMETHING
ELSE...

HE WASN'T
SMILING AT
ANYTHING I DID.

HE WASN'T
SAYING IT
TO ME.

NO!



...BY THE
POWER
OF A
WOMAN...

...SOME-
WHERE
WHERE I
CAN'T SEE
YOU...

WILL YOU
CONTINUE
TO CHANGE...



...OTHER
THAN
MYSELF?

STOP IT...



STOP IT!
DON'T
TOUCH
HIM!!



WHEN
DID YOU
CHANGE
LIKE
THAT?

IN THE
YEAR AND A
HALF SINCE
WE FIRST
MET...

I'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN
WATCHING
YOU...

...BUT I NEVER
SAW YOU
SMILE LIKE
THAT BEFORE.
WHEN DID YOU
CHANGE?



STOP
MEDDLING!!

STAY
AWAY
FROM
YUKI.



AH...

UM...

WH-WHAT
CAME
OVER...

...ME?

SO
SUDDEN
...

I SHOWED
MY UGLY
SELF IN
FRONT OF
YUKI.

I COMPLETELY
LOST CONTROL.

THAT WAS THE
STUPIDEST
THING I'VE
EVER DONE!



EH?!

WAIT A--
MOTOKO?!

ER... I'M
GOING TO GO
WASH MY
FACE.

I HATE
THEM ALL!
THEY'RE
ALL MY
ENEMIES!

BUT...

...THE
ONE I
HATE
MOST...

TOHRU
HONDA, THE
WOMEN WHO
MIGHT BE IN
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL...

...THE NEW
PRESIDENT OF
THE PRINCE
YUKI CLUB...

I DON'T EVEN
WANT TO
CHOOSE ONE.

BUT I
CAN'T
HELP IT.

THAT IS
MY TRUE
SELF.

I HATE
ALL
WOMEN
WHO GET
NEAR YUKI!

...MY
FOOLISH...

...SELFISH,
ARROGANT
RIVALS.

BUT THE
FLAWS
I SEE IN
OTHERS...

...ARE
REALLY JUST
REFLECTIONS OF
THE FLAWS I SEE
IN MYSELF.

...IS MY
'UGLY'
SELF.

THE PART
OF ME THAT
CAN THINK
ONLY OF...

...MINAGAWA-
SENPAI?





EH?!

I THINK
...
...I MIGHT
HAVE SAID
SOMETHING
TO HURT YOUR
FEELINGS.



N-N-NO, THAT'S
NOT IT AT ALL!!
PLEASE DON'T
WORRY ABOUT IT!



...
?!
Y-

YUKI!!
WHAT'S THE
MATTER?!



...WITH
NOTHING
TO SPARE.

I'M JUST
A GUY...



B-BUT
I'M
HONORED
...

...TO HAVE
THE COOL
YUKI WORRY
ABOUT ME.

I'M...



...NOT
COOL OR
ANYTHING.
I'M JUST
A GUY...



I...

...TOO...

...MAY
HAVE...
NOTHING...

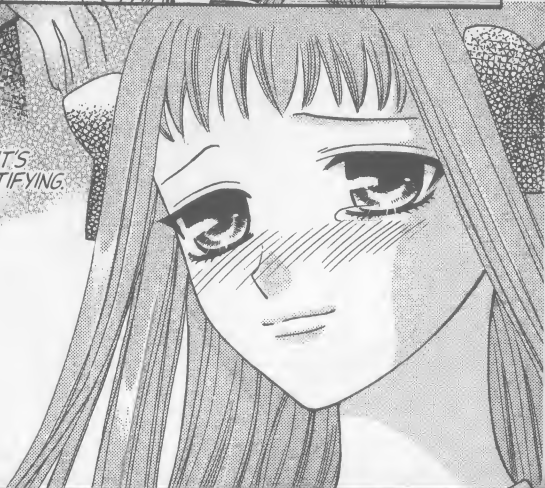
...TO...
SPARE.



IT'S
MORTIFYING.

I DON'T
WANT TO
ADMIT IT...

...BUT THIS
IS PROBABLY
THAT GIRL'S
POWER.



...AND NOT
BE ABLE
TO SHARE
IN THAT
WARMTH.

MO-
TOKO?!

I'M SURE
THAT THEIR
LOVE WILL
BE FULL OF
TROUBLES...

...AND IT
CERTAINLY
WON'T GO
FOR YUKI
THE WAY I
WOULD
WANT IT TO.

TO THINK
THAT I
WOULD SEE
A YUKI...

...WHO CAN
SMILE LIKE
THIS...



BUT...

I MAY
START TO
CHANGE...

...INTO A
BETTER
PERSON.

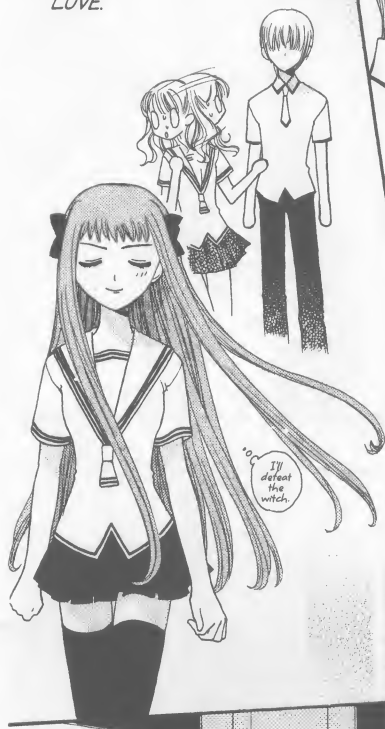
IN THE
MONTHS
TO COME,
I MIGHT
GROW.

...IT'S
NOT AS
IF...

...I DON'T
HAVE
ANY TIME
LEFT.

IT'S TOO
EARLY...

...TO WRITE
OFF OUR
LOVE.



I'll
defeat
the
witch.

...IN A
BIG WAY.



?!

SO--

YUKI SOHMA,
I'M NOT GIVING
UP YET!

YES...

STARTING
TODAY, I'M
GOING TO
'CHANGE'.

?



SO
THAT'S...

...YUKI SOHMA
AND HIS
NUMBER ONE
FAN, HUH?

THE NEW
PRESIDENT IS
BEAUTIFUL.

BUT IT'S AS
PRESIDENT
TAKEI SAYS...

IF SHE KNEW
THAT YOU, A
WOMAN, WILL BE
A NEW MEMBER
OF THE STUDENT
COUNCIL, THAT
GIRL COULD
REALLY STIR UP
TROUBLE.

WHAT WAS
THAT? WHY
DON'T YOU SHOW
SOME INTEREST
IN THE PEOPLE
AROUND YOU?

IT'S
NOTHING.

ME, I'M
INTERESTED
IN YUKI
SOHMA...

BUT...

THAT YUKI
SOHMA...

...



OH, YES...

...BUT
MORE THAN
ANYTHING...

...I'M CURIOUS
ABOUT TOHRU
HONDA-SAN.

Prince Yuki
Club Rules:
When you talk with
him, you must have
someone with you.
Being alone with him
is **INEXCUSABLE**.
You will be punished.

...I'M GOING
TO CHANGE
IN A VERY
BIG WAY.

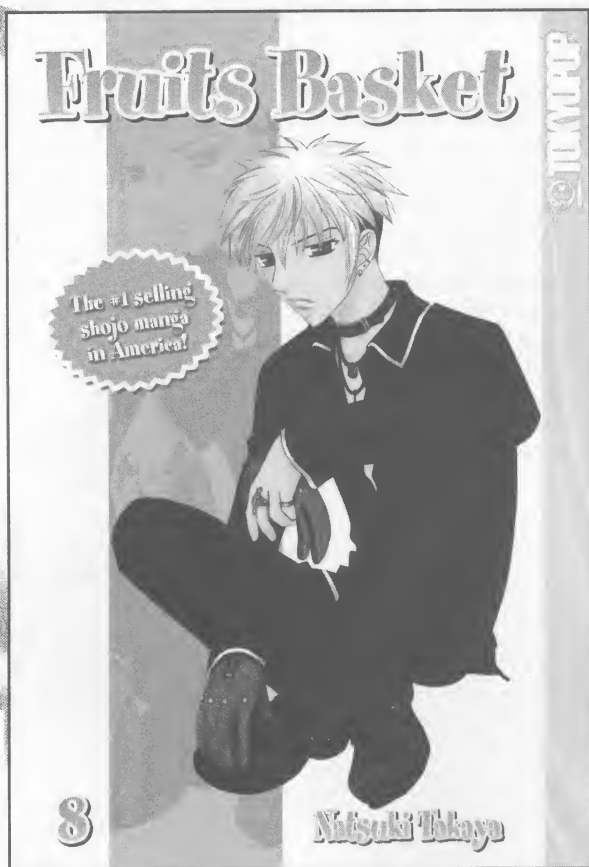
RIGHT... BUT
THAT WOULD
MAKE ME AN
ACCOMPLICE...
WOULDN'T IT?

NOW LET'S
JUST KEEP
MY LITTLE
TRANSGRESSION
WITH YUKI
BETWEEN
YOU AND ME.

IT'S A
SECRET,
RIKA-SAN,
OKAY?!

To be continued in Volume 8

Next time in...



Yellow Sun, Black Haru...

Summer is on its way, so of course Tohru and friends are excited about the upcoming vacation and field trip. But what's that sound? It's Haru going berserk in the classroom....again! Black Haru is full of more rage than usual, so what will happen when Yuki intervenes? And then there's Ritsu Sohma, whose mom Tohru met at the hot spring; what's wrong with this kimono-wearing beauty?!

Fruits Basket Volume 8
Available April 2005

Fans Basket

As the new editor of "Fruits Basket," I have been utterly amazed at the amount of fan mail this book receives from its devoted readers. Seriously. You guys are drowning me in an ocean of letters and art. I have a giant sack under my desk that is continually expanding, like a sun about to go super nova. Trust me, you don't want to be around when that baby explodes. My hands are shredded with paper cuts, all from your brightly colored envelopes and spiffy pictures. I'm not even kidding, you guys. Legally, I am sure this is some form of abuse. But I won't press charges. I guess I'm some kind of masochist, because I am still encouraging you to keep flooding me with your touching words and adorable drawings. Despite the pain I've endured (my back is shot from lifting that sack), I take great joy in reading your mail, and I only wish I could publish every piece of art you send.

- Paul Morrissey, Editor

Chii
Age 14
Killeen, TX



I love Tohru's nonexistent skirt—but not as much as the perverted Shigure. I'm pretty sure that's more than just a hug!

Rachel B.
Age 16
Powder Springs, GA



This is simultaneously precious and disturbing. "I am called Momiji," indeed! Even though Momiji's half-German, I'm never quite ready see him in lederhosen!

Melissa C.
Age 13
Olathe, KS



Chelsea M.
Age 13
Milford, CT



Awwww, how adorably sad. Thanks for subtitled the Japanese.

Very nice! Love those thin lines. Makes for an interesting look! The dress looks awesome, too!

Liz W.
Age 13
Wilmington, DE



Hilarious! Thanks for making me laugh, Liz!

Fruits
Basket